Usenet Newsgroup Archive: rec.radio.amateur.moderated

2012

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Date span: 2012-01-01 through 2012-12-31

Source text: rec.radio.amateur.moderated.txt

Source item: https://archive.org/details/usenet-rec

Messages included in this PDF: 341

Messages are presented chronologically by archived date.

Binary or encoded payloads are not printed as blocks of encoded text; a placeholder appears where such material was detected. The original source text is unchanged.

1. Vacuum tubes

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-01 17:57:50 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <jdq37s$v72$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 520

There is coverage in various places of the US export totals for 2011, heavy on the fact that our #1 export is fuel. But not far down the list is . . . vacuum tubes. I had no idea that the US manufactured so many vacuum tubes or that the market was still so big.

http://tinyurl.com/7ebyodz for the article at the Washington Post

The top exports in 2011 (thru October) were

1 ï¿½ Fuel: $73.4 billion;
2 ï¿½ Aircraft: $70.8 billion;
3 ï¿½ Motor Vehicles: $39.6 billion;
4 ï¿½ Vacuum Tubes: $37.1 billion;
5 ï¿½ Telecommunications Equipment: $33.2 billion.

Following the history of vacuum tubes,

2010, #3, $47.3 billion
2009, #2, $37.7 billion
2008, #4, $50.6 billion
2007, #2, $50.2 billion
2006, #2, $53 billion

Looks like the health of the economy really affects consumption.

So where in the US are these manufactured?

73, Steve KB9X

2. Re: Vacuum tubes

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-01 19:29:27 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <lic1g7dnlcipsfhuf7841301sia9gdplas@4ax.com>
Source record: 521

On Sun, 1 Jan 2012 12:57:50 EST, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>So where in the US are these manufactured?

Varian still sells them - their plant was in Utah the last time I looked. These are "jugs" the size of wastebaskets with prices to match. There are two tube rebuilders in California who serve the broadcast transmitters world-wide as well. I also suspect that klystrons, TWTs, and magnetrons are in that mix, but 6SN7-s are not.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

3. Re: Vacuum tubes

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-02 05:24:30 UTC
From: John Higdon <higgy@kome.com>
Message-ID: <higgy-303DF5.15401701012012@news.announcetech.com>
Source record: 522

In article <lic1g7dnlcipsfhuf7841301sia9gdplas@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> Varian still sells them - their plant was in Utah the last time I
> looked. These are "jugs" the size of wastebaskets with prices to
> match. There are two tube rebuilders in California who serve the
> broadcast transmitters world-wide as well. I also suspect that
> klystrons, TWTs, and magnetrons are in that mix, but 6SN7-s are not.

Everything I tend now is solid state except for four transmitters that
use one each of Eimac 8990 for output. Econco (in Woodland, last I
check) still rebuilds those.

I haven't used anything smaller than 8990 for some years. I know they're
thousands of dollars new, but I haven't bought a new one in ages.

--
John Higdon
+1 408 ANdrews 6-4400

4. Re: Vacuum tubes

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-02 20:24:39 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <m144g7p9s2g8h6hfaqfb039335tmu8cu6i@4ax.com>
Source record: 523

On Mon, 2 Jan 2012 00:24:30 EST, John Higdon <higgy@kome.com> wrote:

>> Varian still sells them - their plant was in Utah the last time I
>> looked. These are "jugs" the size of wastebaskets with prices to
>> match. There are two tube rebuilders in California who serve the
>> broadcast transmitters world-wide as well. I also suspect that
>> klystrons, TWTs, and magnetrons are in that mix, but 6SN7-s are not.
>
>Everything I tend now is solid state except for four transmitters that
>use one each of Eimac 8990 for output. Econco (in Woodland, last I
>check) still rebuilds those.

The two rebuilders to whom I was referring were of course Econco and
Svetlana. Econco, Eimac, and Varian's former vacuum tube business are
now all part of Communication & Power Industries of Palo Alto.

Phil Kane
Beaverton, OR

5. The ARRL Letter for January 5, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-06 02:44:56 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120105212249.565B32473A@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 524
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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January 5, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
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Approaching
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- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + BPL PROVIDER IBEC ANNOUNCES SHUTDOWN

IBEC -- one of the very few remaining operators of Access BPL
systems -- has announced that it is closing down. In an undated
announcement that appeared on the IBEC website, the company announced
that it has "no other option than to close our doors and cease
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operations." IBEC claims that it cannot recover financially from the April 2011 tornadoes in Alabama that "ravished [sic] some of our major service areas." IBEC provided Internet service via broadband over power lines (BPL) to rural communities.

<http://www.arrl.org/images/view/News/IBEC_Letter_to_Customers.jpg>
"While we regret the loss of jobs brought about by IBEC's BPL business failure, in the long run the rural areas that IBEC was trying to serve will be better served by broadband technologies that are superior to BPL and do not pollute the radio spectrum," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "While initially IBEC was cooperative in addressing the ARRL's concerns about interference to licensed radio services -- including Amateur Radio -- the ARRL was dismayed to find that the systems as actually deployed fell short of meeting even the inadequate requirements of the FCC's rules. We hope that this latest in the long string of Access BPL failures will persuade the few remaining fans of BPL to turn their attention elsewhere." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/bpl-provider-ibec-announces-shutdown>.

==> + ON THE AIR: ARRL ANNOUNCES DIAMOND DXCC CHALLENGE

2012 is the 75th anniversary of the ARRL's DXCC Award, the world's preeminent DXing award. To celebrate this important milestone, the ARRL has gone back to the beginning -- the 1937 DXCC List.The Diamond DXCC Challenge will test DXers ability to contact all the 231 entities on the original DXCC List.

We tried to find corresponding entities today that would represent the places listed in 1937, and we were mostly successful. There are a couple of places that were merged, like French and British New Hebrides, and the Papua and New Guinea Territories. In those places, for 2012 if you work a YJ or a P29 (on the main island of New Guinea) you will get credit for working two entities! Many other oddities are sprinkled throughout the list, too. Returning to the air in 2012 will be the Canal Zone (any HP operating within 8 kilometers of the Panama Canal), the Cities of Gdansk, Poland, as well as Ifni, Morocco and Balochistan.

For some entities that now consist of multiple countries, you may work any of today's entities to qualify for that single 1937 country. For example, French Equatorial Africa will be considered worked if you log a station in TL, TN, TR or TT in 2012. The Diamond DXCC country tables show the current entity names and prefixes that qualify for the 1937 countries. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-diamond-dxcc-challenge>.

==> + AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: ARISSAT-1 RE-ENTERS EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE, FALLS SILENT

According to AMSAT <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/index.php>, ARISSat-1 stopped transmitting <http://www.arissat1.org/v3/> on the morning of January 4. It is believed that the satellite re-entered the

Earth's atmosphere around 0700 UTC (+/- three hours) and was destroyed soon after. Telemetry reports showed that the temperature aboard ARISSat-1 had been rising as the atmospheric drag began to affect the satellite The predicted decay location is an open part of the South Atlantic, well west of Angola.

The last telemetry reports indicated that the internal temperature had topped 167 degrees Fahrenheit and was rising rapidly. Konstantin Vladimirovich, RN3ZF, sent a reception report of a pass at 0842 UTC and stated, "The telemetry was absent, voice messages were not legible, very silent and interrupted. Most likely, I saw the last minutes in the life of the satellite." The last full telemetry captured was received from ground stations as the satellite passed over Japan at 0602 UTC on January 4.

ARISSat-1 was deployed <http://www.arrl.org/news/arissat-1-finally-deployed-from-iss> from the International Space Station on August 3, 2011 during EVA-29 on by Cosmonaut/Flight Engineers Sergei Volkov, RU3DIS, and Alexander Samokutyaev. The satellite carried a student experiment from Kursk State University in Russia that measured atmospheric density. Students from around the world provided the voices for the FM voice announcements.

AMSAT President Barry Baines, WD4ASW, said that ARISSat-1 marked a new type of satellite that captured the attention of the national space agencies around the world. "With ARISSat-1, we have we have been able to design, launch, and operate a unique educational opportunity," he explained. "By designing an educational mission aligned with NASA's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics goals, radio amateurs around the world have been able enjoy a new satellite in orbit."

ARISSat-1 achieved several "firsts" for Amateur Radio in space, including the first flight test of the AMSAT Software Defined Transponder, which included an FM voice downlink cycling between student messages, spoken telemetry and SSTV; a 16 kHz bandwidth linear transponder; a CW beacon carrying telemetry and call signs of radio amateurs (noting their significant contributions to Amateur Radio in space) and a robust, forward-error-corrected 1kbps BPSK digital downlink carrying satellite telemetry and Kursk experiment telemetry.

==> + HAM RADIO IN HOLLYWOOD: AMATEUR RADIO MAKES ITS DEBUT ON LAST MAN STANDING

If you watched the January 3 episode of Last Man Standing -- the ABC hit situation comedy starring Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT -- you were in for a treat. While this episode didn't feature Amateur Radio per se, it did show Mike's shack in the background. Viewers could see the DXCC, Worked All States, Worked All Continents and the Morse Code Proficiency Certificate -- all provided by the ARRL -- in the first scene. Later on in the show, Mike records his video blog. Sharp-eyed viewers spotted the 2011 ARRL Handbook underneath the mini-tripod, next

to issues of QST!

The episode airing on January 17 will introduce Mike Baxter as KA0XTT. According to Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, Mike will have a QSO on the show. "We had two Amateur Extra class staff members complete a QSO on 10 meters and we recorded it," Amodeo explained. " Unfortunately, we were set up on a stage that is basically a Faraday cage. The very QRP signal made it radio-to-radio. We varied the RIT [receiver incremental tuning] to give it a little extra SSB sound, but I don't think the signal made it much past the stage walls. The recording will be on the show. We thought our ham viewers would get a kick out of it. Non-hams will think it's just distorted." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/em-ham-radio-in-hollywood-em-amateur-radio-makes-its-debut-on-em-last-man-standing-em>.

==> ON THE AIR: ROUND UP THOSE DIGITAL QSOS IN THE 2012 ARRL RTTY ROUNDUP

We're in the heart of the 2011-2012 contest season and this weekend offers the first major event of 2012: The ARRL RTTY Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>. According to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, participation in the digital modes has been growing at an amazing rate. "It's not difficult to get on the digital modes," he explained. "All it takes these days is a computer, a piece of free software and an interface to connect your computer to your rig. It's never been easier!"

Because of that ease, log submissions for the RTTY Roundup have increased about 33 percent since 2007, with 1539 logs received in 2011. "There are plenty of stations to work, including lots of DX," Kutzko said. "Many stations have achieved RTTY DXCC <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc> and RTTY WAS <http://www.arrl.org/was> in a weekend. You can work toward other awards as well, such as the ARRL Triple Play Award <http://www.arrl.org/triple-play>, earned for working all 50 states on CW, SSB and digital modes (including RTTY) and confirming all of those QSOs via Logbook of The World (LoTW <http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>). Do you think you have what it takes to set a new record score for your ARRL Division or Section? Check the record scores <http://www.arrl.org/contest-records> for the RTTY Roundup and see if you can beat the best!

The 2012 ARRL RTTY Roundup runs from 1800 UTC Saturday, January 7 through 2359 UTC Sunday, January 8. Logs may be submitted electronically via e-mail <rttyru@arrl.org>. Paper logs should be sent to ARRL RTTY Roundup, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. All logs must be postmarked no later than 2359 UTC Tuesday, February 7, 2012.

==> DIY: ARRL LAUNCHES NEW DIY CAMPAIGN

The ARRL Public Relations Department has released the Do-It-Yourself (DIY) suite of interrelated promotional materials aimed at exposing the

growing Do It Yourself/Maker community to Amateur Radio opportunities. The DIY movement is nothing new to Amateur Radio. For more than a century, hams have been working in basements and attics, taking things apart and putting them back together in new ways, just for the fun of it. Meanwhile, there has been a growing population of DIY hobbyists who do not know about the opportunities of Amateur Radio.

To reach this growing group, the ARRL Public Relations Department has created an entirely new set of campaign materials for ARRL Public Information Officers, groups and individual hams to use in reaching out to the DIY/Maker community. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, and Dave Bell, W6AQ, were recruited to create the new video. Recruiting volunteers throughout 2011, the duo shot more than 65 hours of high-definition video, and then edited it down to a mere 8 minutes. Titled The DIY Magic of Amateur Radio, it shows ham-makers projects from around the country. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-launches-new-diy-campaign>.

==> + YAESU'S AMATEUR RADIO DIVISION BREAKS WITH MOTOROLA, CHANGES NAME TO YAESU MUSEN

After four years under the Motorola umbrella, Yaesu has split from that company. According to Vertex Standard President and Chief Executive Officer Jun Hasegawa, effective January1, 2012, Motorola will keep the Vertex Standard Land-Mobile Division, while the amateur, marine and air-band will be under the Yaesu Musen banner. The new company will be known as Yaesu USA in the US. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/yaesu-s-amateur-radio-division-breaks-with-motorola-changes-name-to-yaesu-musen>.

==> + ON THE AIR: ARRL 10 METER CONTEST SETS RECORD

As of January 5, almost 5200 logs have been received for the ARRL 10 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>. Contest Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, is happy to have sunspots back: "This just goes to show what sunspots can do for activity. When the solar flux climbed to 190 in September, it was like the first warm day after a long winter; people came out to play -- and play they did, in unprecedented numbers! Activity during this contest season has been nothing short of tremendous, and it seems to have reached a zenith for the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. Old Timers and new licensees from all around the world got on the air and had one heck of a good time on 28 MHz the second weekend in December, shattering the participation record by more than 2300 logs. And we still have a week to go before the log submission deadline!"

==> + DXCC NEWS: 2011 SEES TREMENDOUS INCREASE IN DXCC APPLICATIONS

With the coming of more sunspots, comes more DX. And when more amateurs are working DX, that means the ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department -- especially the DXCC Desk and the ARRL Incoming and Outgoing QSL Bureaus -- goes into high gear.

"In 2011, we saw an increase in the number of cards we received from ARRL members that were sent to foreign QSL bureaus, as well as the number of cards we sent out to the bureaus," said DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L. "In addition, the number of DXCC applications -- including those for initial awards and endorsements -- also increased."

As the number of QSL cards has increased, so have the number of DXCC applications. In 2010, the DXCC Desk processed 7134 applications for initial awards and endorsements; these 2010 applications included 853,462 QSOs. In 2011, the DXCC Desk processed 11,175 applications, containing 1,250,864 QSOs. "Comparing 2010 to 2011, this represents a 47 percent increase in the number of QSOs and a 57 percent increase in the number of applications," MVP Administrative Manager Sharon Taratula explained. "With all of the year's applications not yet fully processed, we've seen a substantial increase in the number of QSOs over 2010."

"Through December 31, 2011, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau received 802,500 cards destined for foreign QSL bureaus from ARRL members in the US," Taratula said. "This represents an increase of 4 percent over the 2010 number of about 771,900 cards. In 2011, the ARRL shipped 799,675 cards -- or close to 5400 pounds of cards -- to foreign bureaus." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/2011-sees-tremendous-increase-in-dxcc-applications>.

==> + ON THE AIR: ARRL REQUESTS FEEDBACK FOR 60 METER BAND PLAN

In November 2011, the FCC released a Report & Order detailing new rules for the 5 MHz (60 meters) Amateur Radio band. These rules have not yet been published in the Federal Register. In order to be official, the rules must be published in the Federal Register and will take effect 30 days after the publication date. The R&O brings with it a number of changes for 60 meter operators. Considering the expected increase in 60 meter activity when the R&O finally takes effect, the ARRL is asking for feedback to assist in crafting a proposed band plan. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-requests-feedback-for-60-meter-band-plan>.

==> HAM RADIO IN HOLLYWOOD: AMATEUR RADIO A PLOT POINT IN MAJOR MOTION PICTURE

According to previews, the plot of the movie Journey 2: The Mysterious Island -- set to be released February 10 -- hinges on Amateur Radio. The movie's hero Sean Anderson (played by Josh Hutcherson) receives a coded distress signal that comes from a mysterious island where no island should exist. Sean decides to follow the signal with the unwilling assistance from his stepfather Hank (played by Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson).

Sean explains to Hank why he wants to hunt down the signal: "A few nights ago, a radio signal got sent out from these coordinates. It could be the mysterious island that Jules Verne wrote about." Hank replies: "You think you're gonna travel halfway around the world and

meet up with some lunatic who's messing around on a ham radio?" "That's not some lunatic," Sean says. "That's my grandfather." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/em-ham-radio-in-hollywood-em-amateur-radio-a-plot-point-in-major-motion-picture>.

==> HAM RADIO IN HOLLYWOOD: CAN I HAVE "AMATEUR RADIO" FOR $800, ALEX?

If you were watching the popular television game show Jeopardy! <http://www.jeopardy.com/> -- where contestants have to answer in the form of a question -- on December 15 <http://www.j-archive.com/showgame.php?game_id=3783>, you might have noticed there was a question featuring Amateur Radio. In the first round, returning champ Boomie Aglietti was playing the category "Pastimes" when he encountered this "answer" worth $800: "The FCC assigns call signs, like N8DNR, to use in this hobby." Aglietti answered correctly with "ham radio."

N8DNR is the call sign of Debbie Dorfman of West Bloomfield, Michigan. Debbie is the mother of Stephen Dorfman, N6DIW (SK) <http://www.vanityhq.com/bin/chistSO.php4?call=N6DIW&type=single>. Stephen was a writer for Jeopardy! from 1984 until he passed away in 2004 at age 48 due to complications from cancer. According to the New York Times <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/01/09/arts/television/09DORF.html>, Dorfman was Jeopardy!'s longest serving and most prolific writer, with more than 50,000 clues to his credit. As part of a team of writers, he won six Daytime Emmy Awards for special-class writing, given for shows that do not fit into traditional categories. On the Jeopardy! episode that aired January 3, 2008 <http://www.j-archive.com/showgame.php?game_id=2269>, another Dorfman call sign was featured -- this one of Stephen's father Neil -- also for $800, in the category "If You're...": "...using a call sign like K8RX, you're engaged in this hobby."

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "We all live for the Sun <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yus7IvioR_A>" Cook, K7RA, reports: We're continuing to see good conditions, although sunspot activity has declined a bit. The average daily sunspot numbers for December 29-January 4 declined nearly 20 points (when compared to the previous seven days) to 88.1; this is the lowest reported weekly sunspot number average since September 2011 <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-k7ra-solar-update-180>. The average daily solar flux was off 6.4 points to 143.1. Another problem seems to have cropped up with NOAA reporting of data that we use in this bulletin. Last month, the sunspot numbers had to be corrected. Now it appears that some of the geophysical data does not check out. Check the planetary A index for the last few weeks of December 2011 here <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftpdir/indices/DGD.txt> and check the same dates here <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftpdir/indices/old_indices/2011_DGD.txt>.

They should match, but they don't (unless the problem has been corrected by the time you read this). But the numbers for all of 2011 match what we have reported in the bulletin, and I suspect it is the correct version. The near term outlook is for solar flux at 140 on January 5-6, 135 on January 7-8, 130 on January 9-11, 125 and 135 on January 12-13, and then back to 140 on January 14-21. The next short term peak is expected at 150 on January 24-26. The expected planetary A index for January 5-9 is 5, 8, 15, 10 and 8, then back down to 5 on January 10-27. That predicted A index of 15 on January 7 -- if accurate -- will be the highest since October 25, when it was 27, and 31 the day before. That activity was sparked by a coronal mass ejection that affected earth around 1800 UTC on October 24. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, January 6. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by The Sunrays' I Live for the Sun <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_Live_for_the_Sun>.

==> ARRL CONGRATULATES: ASHRAF ABUELHAIJA AND KLAUS SOLBACH, DK3BA, WIN DECEMBER QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winners of the QST Cover Plaque Award for December are Ashraf Abuelhaija and Klaus Solbach, DK3BA, for their article "An Inverted V Wire Yagi with Switchable Pattern Rotation for 14 MHz." Congratulations Ashraf and Klaus! The QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the January issue today.

==> DAYTON HAMVENTION: NOMINATION DEADLINE FOR DAYTON HAMVENTION AWARDS APPROACHING

It's not too late to nominate individuals and clubs for the 2012 Dayton Hamvention® awards. The deadline to make your nominations for the Amateur of the Year Award, Special Achievement Award, Technical Excellence Award, and the Amateur Radio Club of the Year Award is Sunday, January 15. The winners will be recognized at the 2012 Dayton Hamvention, May 18-20. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/nomination-deadline-for-dayton-hamvention-awards-approaching>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- January 6 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 7 -- PODXS 070 Club PSKFest; QRP ARCI Pet Rock Celebration
- January 7-8 -- ARRL RTTY Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>; CWops Mini-CWT Test; Original QRP Contest; EUCW 160 Meter Contest
- January 8 -- ARRL Kids Day <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>; SKCC

Weekend Sprint; DARC 10 Meter Contest; Midwinter Contest
- January 11-12 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- January 13 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 14-15 -- North American QSO Party (CW); WW PMC Contest;
Michigan QRP January CW Contest
- January 16 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- January 19 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- January 8 -- ARRL New York/Long Island Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-york-long-island-section-convention-ham-rad
io-university-2012>,
Bethpage, New York
- January 27-28 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capitol-city-hamfe
st-1>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- February 4 -- ARRL Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-state-convention-frostfest-2012>,
Richmond, Virginia; ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-1>,
Ladson, South Carolina
- February 10-12 -- ARRL Northern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northern-florida-section-convention-orlando-ham
cation-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 17-18 -- ARRL Southwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southwestern-division-convention-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- February 18 -- ARRL Arkansas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-section-convention-1>, Hoxie,
Arkansas
- February 25 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/vermont-state-convention-ham-con-2>,
South Burlington, Vermont
- March 3 -- ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/santa-clara-valley-section-convention-radiofest
>,
Del Rey Oaks, California; ARRL South Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-

hamfest-2>,
Rosenberg, Texas
- March 3-4 -- ARRL Alabama Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-section-convention-birminghamfest-1>,
Birmingham, Alabama
- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana
-hamfest>,
Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest
-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-t
m>,
Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest
>,
Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

6. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1795 - January 6 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-06 10:00:19 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120106100004.61E5D33C94@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 525
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1795 - January 6 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1795 with a release date of
January 6th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. ARISSat One falls from orbit after bringing
the delight of ham radio to peoples world-wide; the last B-P-L system
in the USA to use the ham bands shuts down; the ARRL seeks input on a
new bandplan for 60 meters; Samoa and Tokelau cross the International
dateline and ham radio honors inventors Reginald Fessenden and Raymond
Heising, Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report
number 1795 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ARISSAT ONE MISSION COMES TO A CLOSE

The mission of ARISSat-1 has come to an end. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF,
is in the newsroom with the details:

--

Reception reports indicate that ARISSat-1 fell from the sky on
Wednesday, January 4th. Its predicted impact point was in an open area
of the South Atlantic west of Angola.

The last full telemetry captured and uploaded to the ARISSatTLM web
site was at 6:02 UTC as the satellite passed over Japan. These reports
showed that the temperature aboard ARISSat One had been rising as
atmospheric drag began to affect the satellite. Final temperatures
received showed that the Internal Housekeeping Unit was at 167 degrees
Farenheight and was rising.

The last time ARISSat One was heard at the Amateur Radio Newsline
studio facility in California was on January 2nd at about 18:15 Pacific
Standard Time. During that transmission the satellite was at about 127
statute miles in altitude and several hundred miles West of Los
Angeles. Its signal sounded like this:

--

ARISSat-1 audio

--

Two days later, during the 8:42 UTC pass over Russia, RN3ZF sent in a reception report to the ARISSat-1 monitoring website. That posting stated telemetry was absent, voice messages were not legible and interrupted. It is pretty much assumed that RN3ZF most likely witnessed the last minutes in the life of satellite.

ARISSat-1 was deployed from the International Space Station on August 3, 2011 during a space walk by two Russian Cosmonauts. It marked the first ever test flight of an AMSAT designed Software Defined Transponder. One with the ability to transmit simultaneous FM voice on its downlink cycling between student messages, spoken telemetry and SSTV from cameras on the spaceframe. Students from around the world provided the voice announcements. The satellite also carried a student experiment from Kursk State University in Russia which measured atmospheric density.

ARISSat-1 was likely one of the most popular ham radio satellites ever placed on orbit and its one that is definitely going to be missed.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

ARISSat-1 was originally to be named Suitsat 2. The entire project was re-engineered after the Russian spacesuit that was to become Suitsat 2 was prematurely jettisoned from the International Space Station before it could be fitted with ham radio gear. (ANS, WA4SCA, ARNewsline(tm))

**

THE BPL FIGHT: IBEC CLOSES DOWN BPL OPERATIONS DUE TO FINANCIAL LOSSES

One of the very few remaining United States operators of a Broadband over Powerline Internet access system has announced that it is shutting down. A notice that appeared on the International Broadband Electric Communications web site said that due to its inability to overcome financial damage from the April 27th 2011 tornadoes that ravaged some of its service areas in Alabama, it regrets that it has no other option than to close its doors and cease operations.

International Broadband Electric Communications better known by the acronym IBEC went on to say the customer support would cease on January 16th and urged its customer base to seek alternative Internet access as soon as possible. It also stated that it sincerely cares about the Internet needs of rural America and detests watching the national carriers ignore the communications needs of so many hard working families across the nation.

IBEC was headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama. It provided Internet service using broadband over power line technology to rural communities in several states including Virginia, Pennsylvania, Indiana as well as Alabama. With is departure, the ARRL says that there is no other Broadband over Powerline system in the United States that uses the

amateur bands in their deployments. You can read the IBEC closure announcement on its website at www.ibec.net. (Various news reports)

**

RESTRUCTURING: ARRL SEEKING INPUT ON A 60 METER BANDPLAN

The ARRL is seeking input on a proposed new bandplan for the 5 MHz or 60 meter band.

As previously reported, last November the FCC released a Report and Order detailing new rules for the 5 MHz Amateur Radio band. This announcement brought with it a number of changes for 60 meter operators.

Changes include substituting a channel at 5 point 358 point 5 MHz for 5 point 368 MHz previously authorized. The effective radiated limit in the 60 meter band will be raised by 3 dB to 100 W Peak Envelope Power relative to a half-wave dipole. Also, three additional emission types are authorized. These are Data, RTTY and CW will be authorized as soon as an effective date for a rules change is announced.

The ARRL says that considering the expected increase in 60 meter activity when the FCC's Report and Order finally takes effect, the League is asking for feedback to assist in crafting a proposed band plan. If you're a 60-meter operator, e-mail your suggestions to hf-band-plan (at) arrl (dot) org. You can also participate in an online survey at tinyurl.com/60-meter-plan. (ARRL)

**

TIME TRAVEL: SAMOA AND TOKELAU JUMP INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

The tiny South Pacific nation of Samoa and its neighbor Tokelau have jumped forward in time crossing westward over the International Date Line. This, to align themselves with their other 21st century trading partners throughout the region.

At the stroke of midnight on December 29th time in Samoa and Tokelau leapt forward to December 31st which was New Year's Eve. For Samoa's 186,000 citizens, and the 1,500 in Tokelau, Friday December 30, 2011 simply ceased to exist.

Of coarse this does complicate the QSL'ing process for ham radio contacts made with either of these entities on the dates that were simply cast away. It will be interesting to see how the DXCC and pother awards operations handle this situation. (Media Network)

**

NCDXF CONTRIBUTES $15000 TO HK0NA OPERATION

The Northern California DX Foundation has made a $15,000 (dollar) contribution to the HK0NA Malpelo Island DXpedition which is scheduled take place from January 21st to February 5th or 6th.

According to team co-leader Bob Allphin, K4UEE, an advance team of four members departed on Christmas day with nearly 4 tons of gear to transport to the island. They will establish two camps and set up antennas and stations which should be ready when the main team arrives January 21st.

Allphin says that no expedition has ever operated from the top of the island before. Because of this western North America, Asia and Oceana have a much higher need for it.

For the past 40 years the Northern California DX Foundation has funded major DXpeditions to many of the worlds most wanted entities. Malpelo was rated as number 12 on the DX Magazine's Most Wanted List for 2011. More about this massive DX operation is on-line at HK0NA dot com.

The Northern California DX Foundation has also sent a $500 Christmas gift to the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand's HS0AC Club This to help rebuild and re-equip the HS0AC station that was destroyed by recent flooding.

We will have more DX related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (NCDXF, W0GJ)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the K3ZFF repeater of the Boise County Amateur Radio Club serving Boise, Idaho.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: FEMA PLANS MORE AND LONGER EAS TESTS

FEMA and the FCC plans to conduct more, longer, national EAS tests. This, according to Damon Penn who is the assistant administrator for National Continuity Programs at the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, is here with the details:

--

According to news reports FEMA's Damon Penn recently told a congressional panel that after broadcasters report their E-A-S results to the FCC that his agency will be able to determine the extent of the successes and limitations of the November 9th 2011 national test. It will also let FEMA lay plans for future system testing.

Reports say that much of Penn's testimony centered on how to improve the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System known by the acronym IPAWS. This includes making it accessible to people with disabilities. To accomplish this, FEMA has partnered with organizations like National Public Radio to demonstrate that incorporating Common Alerting Protocol

enabled technologies to alert persons with access and functional needs. Penn says that National Public Radio is working on using Common Alerting Protocol compliant messages to deliver alerts through N-P-R's digital radio to prototype devices that activate a bed shaker, display an audio alert in text and output the text to a Braille printer.

Penn also noted that FEMA continues to expand and harden Primary Entry Point stations, going from 36 in 2009 to a current level of 63 with three more under construction. Primary Entry Point stations are those used by the government to originate a nationwide alert. Penn says that by the end of 2012, some 77 Primary Entry Point stations will cover more than 90% of the nation's population.

In his testimony Penn noted that new Primary Entry Point stations all use a standard configuration. This he says means savings in maintenance costs and ensuring ease of movement between these operations. New stations also have the ability to operate under extreme conditions and possess backup equipment and power.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

Penn said that legacy Primary Entry Point stations will be retrofitted to meet the current Primary Entry Point station resiliency standards. (RW)

**

RADIO DAMAGE: FIRE TAKES PENNSYLVANIA AM STATION OFF THE AIR

A Carlisle, Pennsylvania radio station has been taken off the air due to a fire. WIOO AM Program Director Ray Thomas told W-H-T-M news that everything was fine when he left the building to get lunch at around 1 p.m. on Monday, January 2nd. When he returned sometime later he found the building was on fire.

Operations Manager Eric Swidler says station personnel need to determine how much of the facility's equipment is salvageable and time to locate new studio space. Right now, It's unclear when WIOO will be back on the air. An electrical malfunction has been blamed for the blaze. (RW)

**

ENFORCEMET: POPULAR FT. MYERS FLORIDA UNLICENSED STATION SHUT DOWN

Another crackdown on unlicensed radio operations in Florida. Jim Davis, W2JKD, reports:

--

A Lee County, Forida, man has been arrested for broadcasting gospel and public service announcements over 107.5 mHz without a license.

The station called itself Dunbar Community Radio, which catered to the Ft. Myers area. It was shut down on December 9th after its operator, Al Knighten, was arrested for illegally broadcasting shows and music.

Fort Myers Police helped with the FCC bust but Captain Dennis Eads admitted it was a difficult task. He told the local press that the station was providing a service, but the bottom line is that it's operation was illegal.

For his part, station owner Knighten says he doesn't have any regrets. In an interview with WBBH television news he was quoted as saying he believes it was worth it in letting people know we can create something in this community that we can be proud of.

Im Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

What further action will be taken against Knighten by the FCC or the state of Florida is unknown as we go to air. (RBR.com, FCC)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: OPERATORS NEEDED FOR CANADIAN SKI MARATHON

Volunteer operators are needed for the 2012 Canadian Ski Marathon will be held on February 11th and 12th. According to Harold Hamilton, VA3UNK, the event will be held in Western Quebec Province's Ottawa Valley running eastward between Buckingham and Lachute. VA3UNK notes that the marathon depends on ham radio volunteers to provide safety and logistical communication for the benefit of the skiers. If you would like to take part, please e-mail VA3UNK to radio1 (at) admin2 (dot) ca. More information on this event is on-line at www.radio-1.ca. (VA3UNK)

**

HAM RADIO ON THE WEB: ARVN RELEASES ARRL/TAPR DCC VIDEO

Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, of Amateur Radio Video News has released video of the entire 2011 ARRL and Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Digital Communications Conference on the World-Wide-Web. Amateur Radio Video News says that it is also trying a shareware approach to the funding of these videos. It is trusting that those who view them will in turn make a contribution to cover their production costs. You can screen these videos and get information on how to support this and future Amateur Radio Video News projects by taking your web browser to www.arvn.tv. (KN4AQ)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: YOUR HELP NEEDED TO KEEP W5KUB NETCASTS ON THE WEB

One of the true good-guys of ham radio says that he needs the financial support of those who watch his live video coverage of the Dayton Hamvention and other major ham radio events at W5KUB dot com to keep these Netcasts coming their way.

Tom Medlin, W5KUB, has been Netcasting the Dayton Hamvention and Huntsville Hamfest for the past 10 years. He says that covering such events is a major undertaking for him that requires several months of preparation for each one that is live streamed. And during the decade he has provide this service he has done so paying almost every penny himself.

Medlin lives in the Memphis, Tennessee area. According to W5KUB, it now costs him close to $1500 to live stream any of these shows to viewers worldwide. Using the Dayton Hamvention as an example, some of his expenses include over $500 in hotel charges; $200 or more in gasoline for his mobile unit and another $210 for his flea-market parking spaces.

But that's not all. As Tom points out, his video streaming service is not a part of the Hamvention he gets no subsidy from it. So he has to pay another $70 for tickets for himself and his crew plus about $400 for food and expendable items such as batteries and the like. And in the end it works out at about $1500 each time he provides the video streaming service.

According to a posting on his W5KUB.com website, expenses have climbed through the roof over the past few years. As such, he is asking those who view his Netcasts to please consider donating a little to help defray his expenses in providing this service. He says that his goal is to try to raise at least $1000 in donations this year to go towards the $1500 expense. If he can get that, he will continue to subsidize the difference.

Tom adds he never wanted to ask for donations but that may be what it takes if he is to continue broadcasting these events. More information on how to support this worthy cause is on-line at tmedlin.com/donate.html. (ARNewsline(tm) from W5KUB.com posting)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: CONTEST UNIVERSITY 2012 - MAY 17 IN DAYTON OHIO

The 2012 Contest University will be held May 17th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dayton, Ohio. This in concurrence with this years Dayton Hamvention.

This years scheduled instructors include such notables as N6TR, K3NA, K7NV, XE1KK, W5WZ and K2RD to name only a few. Also, several past professors will present papers as well.

Early bird registration is open through January 31st. More information is on liner at www.contestuniversity.com. (Contest University)

**

HAMVENTION 2012: AWARDS NOMINATIONS DEADLINE IS JANUARY 15

January 15th is the deadline to submit nominations for the Dayton Hamvention 2012 awards for Amateur of the Year, Special Achievement,

Technical Excellence and Club of the Year.

The Amateur of the Year Award goes to an individual who has made a long-term, outstanding commitment to the advancement of amateur radio. The Technical Excellence Award is for the person who has made an outstanding technical advancement in the field of amateur radio. The Special Achievement Award honors someone who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of amateur radio, usually someone who has spearheaded a significant project. The Club of the Year award goes to a club which has made a significant contribution to the advancement of amateur radio.

All amateur radio operators are eligible. The Hamvention Awards Committee makes the decision on all awards based in part upon the information it receives. Documentation that informs the Awards Committee of a nominee's accomplishments may include magazine articles, newsletters, newspaper clippings, and even videos. These materials become the property of Hamvention and will not be returned.

Additional details on these awards and a nomination form are available on the Dayton Hamvention Website located in cyberspace at www.hamvention.org/awards.php. Nominations also are accepted via US mail to Dayton Hamvention Awards, PO Box 964, Dayton, Ohio, 45401.

The winners will be recognized at the 2012 Hamvention, which runs May 18th to the 20th at the HARA Arena in the Dayton suburb of Trotwood, Ohio. Hamvention planners say that they hope to see you there. (Hamventionr)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO FROM SPACE: SETI SEARCH BEGINS ANEW

Researchers have once again undertaken the search for intelligent life on other planets. After lying dormant for more than seven months, radio telescopes run by the SETI Institute have once again begun listening for radio signals from the many alien planet candidates discovered by NASA's Kepler space telescope. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, is here with the details:

--

S-E-T-I or SETI is an acronym that stands for the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence. On Monday December 5th, Jill Tarter, who is the director of the Center for SETI Research at the SETI Institute announced that the group has begun re-observing the Kepler worlds using a ground-based radio telescope system.

SETI's Allen Telescope Array or A-T-A is a set of 42 dish type antennas located about 300 miles northeast of San Francisco, California. It began scanning the heavens for electromagnetic signals that could betray the presence of an intelligent alien civilization back in 2007. In January of 2011 the SETI team started training the Allen array on the 54 planet candidates Kepler had detected what is described by astronomers as the first habitable zone to date. Then it was shut down due to budgetary constraints.

Once funds became available, SETI researchers reactivated the Allen Telescope and have begun using Kepler's discoveries to guide its activities. The Kepler space telescope was placed on-orbit in March 2009. Its mission is to hunt for Earth-size planets in their parent stars' habitable zone. That would position such planets at just the right range of distances from their home star where liquid water and perhaps life as we know could exist.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

--

SETI and ham radio have had a long association with one another going back several decades. (Space.com)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT FRANCOPHONE FORMED TO REPLACE AMSAT-FRANCE

Amsat-Francophone is the name of a new organization that hopes to replace AMSAT-France which was dissolved in late 2011. Formed in late December, AMSAT-Francophone lists among its goals the development of amateur satellites, technology and systems useful for the construction and / or use of amateur satellites and participation in national and international non-commercial projects in space. The hams behind AMSAT-Francophone are said to be some of the people who originally created AMSAT-France 16 years ago. More in Google translated English is at tinyurl.com/AMSAT-Francophone. (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AGEING FO-29 RECOVERED FROM SHUTDOWN

The Fuji Oscar 29 Command Team reports from Japan that they have recovered the satellite after it had experienced a shutdown. This, due to longer eclipse periods causing an under-voltage condition.

Ground station operators have placed FO-29 in a temporary, but stable configuration for further testing and recovery operations. They were to

test FO-29 while it is over Japan between December 23rd and the 25th. If no problems occur the Command Team will announce an operating schedule for the satellite for the early part of 2012. (JE9PEL)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NO 40 METER CONTACTS POSSIBLE WITH THE ISS

According to a note from the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station team, rumors that the ISS was having direct contacts on the 40 meter band are false. The reason that this is not possible is that there is no high frequency radio gear on board the orbiting outpost. What is likely being heard is space station audio being retransmitted by an amateur station on the ground. ARISS notes that WA3NAN which is the club station at the Goddard Spaceflight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, is among those that retransmit shuttle audio. (ANS)

**

DX

In DX, word that the long planed Sable Island DXpedition has been postponed. According to AA4VK and WA4DAN, a recent winter storm with twenty foot swells pushed water onto the sand runway making it unusable. Al Wilson, the Officer in Charge of Sable Island made an assessment of the landing area and reported there was no possibility of a flight to the island at that time. Also, resumption of air operations to Sable would depend on how quickly the water would drain from the landing area and if any other storms affect the island. At that point, the DXpedition planners decided to postpone the operation. For the latest on when the operation might be rescheduled please check www.cy0dxpedition.com on the World Wide Web.

Keep an ear open for special event station 4G0LD to be active during 2012. This operation is to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Philippine Amateur Radio League. QSL only via the Bureau.

Lastly, listen out for six operators to be active as TN2T from the Republic of the Congo between January 22nd and the 31st. Using three stations, the DXpedition will be active on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL Manager is M0URX. More information is on-line at www.tn2t.be.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: HONORING FESSENDEN AND HEISING NEAR 500 KC

And finally this week, in honor of inventors Reginald Fessenden and Raymond Heising, a special operation is taking place on 472.5 kHz. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the rest of the details:

--

As early as 1900 Reginald Fessenden was experimenting with the direct transmission of human speech. A bit later, during WW1, Raymond Heising was developing a method of constant-current modulation that was one of the earliest forms of Amplitude Modulation.

Brian Justin, WA1ZMS/4 is part of the ARRL's Low Frequency WD2XSH Experimental License. With the cooperation of commercial coastal CW station WNE and the FCC's Office of Engineering Technology Justin has received a Special Temporary Authority with call sign WF9XIH. This to permit AM transmissions with a center carrier frequency of 472.5kHz until March 1st.

Reginald Fessenden is best remembered for his Christmas Eve 1906 transmission. It was comprised of him playing the violin, playing a recording and him reading a Bible verse. Justin began his operation the week of December 18th of 2011 with a special recreation of that 1906 Christmas Eve transmission:

--

Actual transmission audio.

--

According to Justin, WF9XIH is licensed for up to 20 watts Effective Radiated Power and he says that every effort is being made to run as close to that ERP as possible. The antenna is a 160 meter dipole that tends to be very lossy when fed by a 600 meter signal. This is the same antenna that he has been using for his WD2XSH/31 operation.

WF9XIH transmissions are being coordinated with W-N-E and any changes to the WNE schedule will alter the WF9XIH operating times. The current plan is to make at least one Heising modulated AM transmission most evenings at 02:00 UTC. Audio loops of speech and a series of stepped audio tones will be used most of the time. The stepped audio tones should make it easier for DX listeners to demodulate them in CW or SSB mode even when they are well beyond the range of the AM signal.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

If you happen to copy a WF9XIH transmission, WA1ZMS requests that you log it at www (dot) 500kc (dot) com. Information about the ongoing WD2XSH/31 operation can be found at tinyurl.com/wd2xsh31 (WA1ZMS/4)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from

the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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7. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1795 - January 6 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-09 11:46:29 UTC
From: nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu
Message-ID: <jee741fsf1@usenet.stanford.edu>
Source record: 526
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy

In article <20120106100004.61E5D33C94@panix2.panix.com> William M. Pasternak
<newsline@ix.netcom.com> writes:
>Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1795 - January 6 2012

>TIME TRAVEL: SAMOA AND TOKELAU JUMP INTERNATIONAL DATELINE
>
>The tiny South Pacific nation of Samoa and its neighbor Tokelau have
>jumped forward in time crossing westward over the International Date
>Line. This, to align themselves with their other 21st century trading
>partners throughout the region.
>
>At the stroke of midnight on December 29th time in Samoa and Tokelau
>leapt forward to December 31st which was New Year's Eve. For Samoa's
>186,000 citizens, and the 1,500 in Tokelau, Friday December 30, 2011
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>
>Of coarse this does complicate the QSL'ing process for ham radio
>contacts made with either of these entities on the dates that were
>simply cast away. It will be interesting to see how the DXCC and
>pother awards operations handle this situation. (Media Network)

Except, of course, that one either logged the contact in UTC, or can convert
the time of the contact at each end to UTC, to confirm the contact was logged
at the same time at each end.

While the *local* time may show a discontinuity/gap, UTC plugs on unchanged
through the event. There was no time that didn't exist. Thus, there is no
issue with contacts on dates cast away.

- - - -

Looked at a different way, December 30 didn't exist in those places. Thus,
nobody there could have made a contact on that day, so (again) no problem
could occur.

Alan
wa6azp

8. FCC Daily Digest 01/11/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-11 17:42:13 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-506294-2012.01.11-11.54.44--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 527
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 7 January 11, 2012

[...]

AMENDMENT OF THE AMATEUR SERVICE RULES GOVERNING VANITY AND CLUB STATION C
ALL SIGNS. Denied the Petition for Partial Reconsideration. (Dkt No. 09-
209). Action by: the Commission. Adopted: 01/03/2012 by MO&O. (FCC No. 1
2-1). WTB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-1A1.do
c
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-1A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-1A1.txt

[...]

9. The ARRL Letter for January 12, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-13 04:34:09 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120113015341.CAA3125CB2@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 528
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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January 12, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
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- Amateur Radio Fun: New QuickStats Poll Now Available on ARRL Website
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- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS GATHER THIS WEEKEND FOR 2012 ANNUAL
MEETING

ARRL policy is made by its Board of Directors. The 15 voting members
of the Board are the Directors who are elected by the ARRL members in
their respective divisions. The Board meets in January and July,
usually in the Hartford area. ARRL members also elect Vice Directors
who may attend the meetings. ARRL Directors and Vice Directors are
volunteers who work hard to represent the ARRL in their divisions, to
represent the members who elect them on policy issues and to conduct
the committee work that is so important to good decision-making.
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The 2012 Annual Meeting begins on Friday, January 13 and is expected to run through Saturday afternoon. Usually, the Annual Meeting is held the third full weekend in January, but with the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) beginning January 23, the Board voted to hold its meeting early.

The two Standing Committees -- the Administration & Finance (A&F) Committee and the Programs & Services Committee -- will meet on Thursday, January 12. These two committees are made up of five Directors and a Vice Director, with the treasurer serving as an additional member of the A&F Committee. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/2012-annual-meeting-of-the-arrl-board-of-directors-set-for-january-13-14-agenda-announced>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC DENIES ARRL PETITION ON VANITY, CLUB CALL SIGNS

On January 11, the FCC denied an ARRL Petition for Reconsideration concerning vanity and club call signs. Filed with the Commission in January 2011, the ARRL's Petition was in response to the FCC's Report and Order that detailed rules changes to the vanity call sign system and call signs for Amateur Radio clubs. These new rules went into effect on February 14, 2011.

The FCC noted that the ARRL supports its efforts to prevent club stations from obtaining an unfair share of desirable call signs, but expresses concern that the specific rule language adopted by the Commission "does not preclude the abuses that the Report and Order intended to preclude." In its Petition, the ARRL stated that if a club has multiple station trustees, each of these trustees could obtain a vanity call sign for the club, thereby allowing the club to obtain multiple vanity call signs. The ARRL also argued that a club could "'gam[e]' the club station vanity call sign system" by obtaining multiple FCC Registration Numbers (FRNs) and applying for a vanity call sign under each FRN. "We do not believe that the vanity call sign system is subject to the abuses identified by the ARRL," the FCC said, "or that it's suggested rule changes are necessary." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-denies-arrl-petition-on-vanity-club-call-signs>
.

==> + ARRL MEETS 2011 FUNDRAISING GOALS

Thanks to the generosity of dedicated members and friends, the ARRL successfully met its 2011 fundraising goals. More than 6000 individuals and clubs supported the efforts of the ARRL this past year through gifts to the Diamond Club, the Spectrum Defense Fund, the Education & Technology Fund, the Historic Preservation Fund, the W1AW Endowment Fund and the ARRL Endowment Fund.

Many of the ARRL's programs and services would not be possible without the additional support of its members. The Development Office -- managed by Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH -- worked tirelessly throughout 2011 to make the membership aware of these needs. "I am proud to report that our members have enthusiastically and

generously responded to our appeals all year long," Hobart said. "Our overall goal for 2011 was $960,000. As of the end of the year, we had met -- and exceeded -- all expectations. To everyone who made this possible, thank you!" Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-meets-2011-fundraising-goals>.

==> + GET READY FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF QST

The February issue of QST is jam-packed with all sorts of things that today's Amateur Radio operator needs. This issue celebrates 50 years of the Amateur Satellite Service, marking the December 1961 launch of OSCAR 1, the first Amateur Radio satellite. Discover articles, projects and tips to improve your station, as well as information about operating activities that will keep you active on the air throughout 2012.

With energy costs skyrocketing, many people are looking to find ways to save on their electric bill. It's no secret that radios, amplifiers and all the peripherals in your shack can drive up the cost of your monthly usage. With this in mind, Mert Nellis, W0UFO, presents "Characterizing Solar Panels for Amateur Radio Applications." Solar panels use the Sun to produce electrical current to charge a battery, providing steady power for radios and small appliances. And moving your station off the grid may be easier than you think. In his article "Going Totally Green," Dave Gauger, W9CJS, explains that it is simple to make your station environmentally friendly. Gauger notes that he didn't set out to "go green" to save money on his electric bill, but did it for the fun and challenge, as well as to have the ability to provide substantial HF communications in the event of a major power outage.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the ARRL's DXCC Award, the world's preeminent DXing award. To celebrate this milestone, the ARRL is presenting the Diamond DXCC Challenge. We are challenging DXers worldwide to work at least 100 of the 231 entities representing those on the original 1937 DXCC List. And when you're out there hunting that DX, why not swing your beam south for Antarctic Activity Week? Ruth Vano, KB0USC, tells the story of this annual event sponsored by the Worldwide Antarctic Program in her article "To the End of the Earth -- Antarctic Activity Week."

ARRL Contributing Editor Phil Salas, AD5X, takes a look at the Elecraft KPA500 HF/6 meter power amplifier in this month's Product Review. He says this "fully featured amplifier looks and works great on your desk or at your DX location. It's 160 to 6 meter 500 W capability, auto band switching and PIN diode switching integrate well with all transceivers." QST Product Review Editor Mark Wilson, K1RO, test drove four 25 A switch mode power supplies: the Jetstream JTPS30M, the Powerwerx SS-30DV, the QJE DX PS30SWII and the Ten-Tec model 941.

Of course, there are the usual columns you know and expect in the February QST: Happenings, Hints & Kinks, The Doctor Is In, How's DX,

Vintage Radio and more. Look for your February issue in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> ON THE AIR: THE ARRL JANUARY VHF SWEEPSTAKES MEANS WINTER CONTESTING FUN FOR EVERYONE

VHF operators will be on the bands in force the weekend of January 21-23, as the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes hits the airwaves. This contest gives the VHFer in all of us a chance to do some contesting during the winter months. "Don't let the cold weather in much of the US dissuade you from getting on the air," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. "Many a portable or Rover operation has done just fine in January. While propagation enhancement can seem fleeting in January, there have been some monstrous openings during this contest in years past. Who knows? Perhaps the propagation gods will grant us a late holiday gift with an extended aurora or tropospheric event!" Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-arrl-january-vhf-sweepstakes-means-winter-contesting-fun-for-everyone>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC GRANTS SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY FOR AMATEUR SPREAD SPECTRUM EXPERIMENTS

Phil Williams, KA1GMN, has been granted a Special Temporary Authority (STA) by the Federal Communications Commission to conduct Spread Spectrum experiments within 2.5 kHz signal bandwidths on 160 through 2 meters, at a maximum of 100 W effective radiated power. The six month authorization takes effect February 1 and expires on July 31. The FCC has assigned Williams the call sign WF9XJD for use during his experimental transmissions. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-grants-special-temporary-authority-for-amateur-spread-spectrum-experiments>.

==> + FCC NEWS: RADIO AMATEURS NOT AFFECTED BY NARROWBANDING REQUIREMENTS

The FCC released a Public Notice <http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0105/DA-12-12A1.pdf>
on January 6, reminding land mobile licensees, frequency coordinators and equipment manufacturers that they have less than one year to transition to narrowband operations in the 150-174 and 421-512 MHz bands. While the latter frequency range includes amateur service allocations, radio amateurs are not affected by the narrowbanding requirement. Land mobile operation is permitted in parts of the 421-430 MHz band in the areas around Detroit, Cleveland and Buffalo, and land mobile licensees in these areas are among those who will have to migrate to narrowband (12.5 kHz or narrower) technology by January 1, 2013. Amateur operation is not permitted along the Canadian border

(north of Line A as defined in the FCC Rules) in the band 420-430 MHz.

==> + ON THE AIR: ARRL REQUESTS FEEDBACK FOR 60 METER BAND PLAN

In November 2011, the FCC released a Report & Order detailing new rules for the 5 MHz (60 meters) Amateur Radio band <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-releases-new-rules-for-60-meters>. As of January 12, these rules have not yet been published in the Federal Register. In order to be official, the rules must be published in the Federal Register and will take effect 30 days after the publication date. The R&O brings with it a number of changes for 60 meter operators. Considering the expected increase in 60 meter activity when the R&O finally takes effect, the ARRL is asking for feedback to assist in crafting a proposed band plan. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-requests-feedback-for-60-meter-band-plan>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Searching for a way to January Sun <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztzMII6T-U4>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers were up this week by a tiny bit, from 88.1 to 90.6, while the average daily solar flux was down slightly, from 136.2 to 134.9. The latest daily projection from NOAA/USAF shows the solar flux about 15 points lower than the average for the week, at 120 on January 12-15, 125 on January 16-19, and then a jump of 20 points to 145 on January 20-26. It should decline again, and then rise to a peak of 165 on February 17-21. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on January 12, 8 on January 13-14, 5 on January 15-17, 8 on January 18-19, and then back to 5 on January 20-27. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, January 13. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Vanden Plas' January Sun <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christ_0>.

==> TECHNOLOGY NEWS: VIDEOS OF 2011 ARRL/TAPR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Amateur Radio Video News (ARVN <http://www.arvn.tv/>) has released high-definition videos of all the talks presented at the 2011 ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC <http://www.tapr.org/dcc.html>), held September 16-18. The programs are now available online on the ARVN website <http://arvideonews.com/dcc2011/index.html>.

The DCC is a three-day conference on Amateur Radio digital technology. Among the video presentations are 18 seminars, the Saturday Banquet and the welcome introduction by TAPR Chairman Steve Bible, N7HPR. According to ARVN Producer Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, most of the talks are fairly technical, although there are four separate sessions that cover "Intro to" topics. "All of the talks -- except the 'Intro to' talks -- were shot in three-camera high-definition, with wireless mics

for 'close-up' audio of the presenter, as well as the question-and-answer period," he explained. "The 'Intro to' talks were shot with a single, standard-definition camera.

This year, Pearce decided to release the programs on the web <http://arvideonews.com/index.html> instead of the DVDs that have been produced in previous years (although the DVDs will be available later). "I wanted to make the programs available more quickly and easily to a worldwide audience," he said. "The web has become an easy, high-quality distribution medium."

==> AMATEUR RADIO FUN: NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- Do you have a call sign license plate on your vehicle?
- Do you still have some vacuum tubes in your parts box?
- Will the new privileges on the 60 meter band make you more inclined to operate there?
- Are you active on APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System)?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the April 2012 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- January 13 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 14-15 -- North American QSO Party (CW); WW PMC Contest; Michigan QRP January CW Contest
- January 16 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- January 19 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next week:

- January 20 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 21 -- Feld Hell Sprint; LZ Open Contest
- January 21-22 -- North American QSO Party (SSB); Hungarian DX Contest; YL-ISSB QSO Party (SSB)
- January 21-23 -- ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes <http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf-sweepstakes>
- January 25 -- SKCC Sprint
- January 25-26 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- January 27-28 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capitol-city-hamfest-1>, Jackson, Mississippi
- February 4 -- ARRL Virginia State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-state-convention-frostfest-2012>, Richmond, Virginia; ARRL South Carolina State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-1>, Ladson, South Carolina
- February 10-12 -- ARRL Northern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northern-florida-section-convention-orlando-hamcation-1>, Orlando, Florida
- February 17-18 -- ARRL Southwestern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southwestern-division-convention-1>, Yuma, Arizona
- February 18 -- ARRL Arkansas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-section-convention-1>, Hoxie, Arkansas
- February 25 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/vermont-state-convention-ham-con-2>, South Burlington, Vermont
- March 3 -- ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/santa-clara-valley-section-convention-radiofest>, Del Rey Oaks, California; ARRL South Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-hamfest-2>, Rosenberg, Texas
- March 3-4 -- ARRL Alabama Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-section-convention-birminghamfest-1>, Birmingham, Alabama
- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana-hamfest>, Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest-1>, Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-tm>,

Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest
>,
Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#%21/edit-info-email_subscripti
ons>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store>
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choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

10. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1796 - January 13 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-13 10:00:24 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120113100004.8FB0D33C52@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 529
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1796 - January 13 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1796 with a release date of January 13th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The Supreme Court hears an appeal dealing with broadcast indecency that could eventually impact ham radio and other services. Also, the FCC turns away an ARRL vanity call sign appeal dealing with club calls; Missouri exempts hams from a proposed cellphone while driving law and ham radio to celebrate the life of famed country music legend Johnny Cash. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1796 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RADIO LAW: FCC HEARS CHALLENGE TO FCC INDECENT LANGUAGE RULES

The United States Supreme Court heard arguments on Tuesday, January 10th about whether the FCC should still have a role in policing the nation's airwaves or whether its indecency regulations violate guarantees of free speech and due process. Whatever the justices decide could also impact on other, non-broadcast services as well. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has more:

--

The broadcast networks have argued successfully in lower courts that in a world where they exist side by side with cable channels, the Internet and satellite provided programming that it is beyond the FCC's jurisdiction and that singling them out is not only nonsensical but totally unconstitutional. And in a court brief, Washington attorney Carter G. Phillips, who represents several networks, told the court that broadcasting is neither uniquely pervasive nor uniquely accessible to children, yet broadcasters are still denied the same basic First Amendment freedoms as other media.

Phillips continued by stating that to the average American viewer, broadcasting is just one source among hundreds in a media-saturated environment. He noted that with a mere press of a button on the remote control one could switch from other to fully protected sources.

On the other side of this issue is the Obama administration which is defending the FCC's regulatory powers. It told the court that in what it calls a new media world that the FCC is still required to have

continued federal oversight of the public airwaves. This, to provide a haven for parents and children from the unregulated world of cable television and the Internet.

In his brief, U.S. Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli Jr. wrote that generations of parents have relied on indecency regulation to safeguard broadcast television as a relatively safe medium for their children. He notes that the current regulations come from a 1978 Supreme Court's decision in the case of the FCC versus the Pacifica Foundation. There the court upheld the commission's decision that an afternoon radio broadcast of comedian George Carlin's 1973 monologue broadcast over New York City station WBAI about the so-called seven words that could not be said on television violated indecency standards. It was in that case where the Supreme Court found that the FCC was well within constitutional boundaries to police the radio and television airwaves during the times children would probably be listening, which was interpreted between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.

As to the reason that this is an important case for ham radio and other personal radio services? Simply because traditionally enforcement of indecency violations in amateur radio, CB and the like has long been predicated on and tied to the standards used to guide commercial broadcasters. If the Supreme Court rules that the FCC cannot control indecent language in broadcasting it could be in effect saying that the government has no power on this issue in other services, including what's said on the ham radio bands.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline. I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

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In recent years, the Supreme Court has regularly ruled in favor of free-speech claims. But during oral arguments none of the justices voiced any support for making a major change in the law barring broadcast indecency during safe haven hours. As we go to air it's not known when the Justices will render its decision in this case. (Various published reports)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC REJECTS ARRL PARTIAL APPEAL ON CLUB CALLSIGNS

The FCC has rejected a motion for partial reconsideration of revised rules enacted by the FCC. These to limit the number of vanity calls that any individual or club can hold.

In its petition the League stated that it supports the Commission's efforts to prevent club stations from obtaining an unfair share of desirable call signs. But it also expressed concern that the precise rule language adopted by the FCC did not preclude the abuses that the Report and Order intended to prohibit. Specifically, the ARRL believes that if a club has multiple station trustees, each of these trustees

could obtain a vanity call sign for the club. That in turn could allow the club to obtain multiple vanity call signs.

But in denying the ARRL appeal the FCC said that the Leagues petition does not provide any grounds for reconsidering the Commission's decision in the Report and Order. It said that the concerns expressed by ARRL about licensees attempting to evade the rules adopted in the Report and Order are already addressed by the Commission's licensing rules and processes. It notes that Section 97.5(b)(2) of its rules states, in part, that a club station license grant may be held only by the person who is the license or trustee designated by an officer of the club. In simpler terms, only one vanity call sign per club. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC GREEN LIGHTS STA FOR TEXAS HAM TO RUN HF SPREAD SPECTRUM

The FCC has granted Philip J. Williams, KA1GMN, of Euless, Texas, a Special Temporary Authority or STA to conduct Spread Spectrum experiments on 160 through 2 meters.

The 6 month authorization takes effect February 1st and expires on July 31st. It limits Williams to a maximum 2.5 kHz of signal bandwidths at 100 watts effective radiated power. Williams was directed by the FCC to use the Experimental Station call letters WF9XJD during his investigational Spread Spectrum transmissions.

Previous experiments with Spread Spectrum technology have been conducted on the ham radio bands at 222 MHz and above where this mode of transmission is already legal. The Special Temporary Authority granted to Williams is the first permitting Spread Spectrum experimentation on the High Frequency and lower VHF bands. (FCC)

**

LOW FREQUENCY EXPERIMENT: OPERA ENCODED SIGNAL TRAVELS 2200 MILES

Opera has made a big debuet on the ham radio bands. Using the new Opera data mode, Gary Taylor, G4WGT, in Lancanshire in the United Kingdom has successfully transmitted a signal on 137.5 kHz across the North Atlantic to Joe Craig, VO1NA, in Toebay, Canada. This over a distance of 3,500 kilometers or 2200 miles.

Taylor transmitted six full callsign frames in a two hour period, which is a big time saving over other slow digital modes like QRSS. Opera was created by Graham Brown, G0NBD with the actual code written by Jose Ros, EA5HVK. This as a way of providing data operations for stations that only had the CW capability. The most up to date information on this mode can be found at groups.yahoo.com. (Southgate)

**

RADIO SCIENCE: UK HAMS EXPERIENCE DELAYED ECHO PHENOMENA ON 80 METERS

Two UK amateurs have reported hearing strong echoes on their 80 meter CW signals in the evening. Tony Roskilly, G3ZRJ in Herefordshire and Andrew Fairgrieve, GW3OQK in Swansea were in QSO on January 1st when they could hear another signal underneath theirs. It turned out to be an echo of their own signals.

Roskilly said the echoes were initially so strong that he had trouble monitoring his CW keying. The delay in the echoes was of the order of a quarter to a half second and the echo strength hit S9. Tests by Fairgrieve on the evening of the 3rd of January revealed the same phenomena at around 21.00 UTC, albeit weaker in signal strength.

Steve Nichols, G0KYA, is the chairman of the RSGB's Propagation Studies Committee. He says that these were unlikely to be round-the-world echoes, but could be due to a form of magnetospheric ducting where signals follow the earth's magnetic field lines down to the southern hemisphere before being bounced back along the same duct. Nichols said that this was quite rare and not really understood.

Amateurs are being urged to look out for any echoes on their 80 meter signals and report any findings to G0KYA (at) qsl (dot) net. (GB2RS)

**

RESTRUCTURING: DUTCH HAMS GRANTED BANDS AT 500 KHZ AND 70 MHZ

Dutch amateurs have been granted access to two new bands. The first is a low-band grant from 501 to 505 kHz on a secondary basis with power and mode restrictions. And like most of the European continent they also now are permitted operations from 70 to 70.5MHz. This also on a secondary basis with restrictions on the power output level that they can run. (GB2RS)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the N8LFR repeater serving Bad Aex, Michigan.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: MISSOURI EXEMPTS HAMS FROM PROPOSED CELLPHONE AND TEXTING LAW

Some good news for hams in the show me state. They won't be subject to a new law working its way through the Missouri legislature to control cellphone and texting while driving a motor vehicle. Matthew Chambers, NR0Q, is here with the details:

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If you live in Missouri you might have heard, there is a new Senate Bill, SB 567, that has been introduced by State Senator Robin Write-Jones, a Democrat-St Louis to be considered in 2012 by the Missouri Senate. There is good news though in this bill if you're a ham radio operator. The last line of the bill contains the following exemption language:

Exempt are the use of two-way radio transmitters or receivers by a licensee of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service.

That means that the mobile use of amateur transceivers is for now safe in Missouri.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, This is Matthew Chambers, NR0Q. In Moberly Missouri

--

>From its wording, the exemption is only for ham radio so users of F-R-S, GMRS and CB might be subject to penalties unless the regulation gets changed to exempt theses personal radio services as well. (NR0Q)

**

RADIO LAW: LESS THAN ONE YEAR REMAINS FOR LAND MOBILE RADIO LICENSEES TO NARROWBAND

Land mobile radio service licensees operating in the 150 to 174 Mhz and in the 421 to 512 MHz bands now have less than a year to transition to FCC mandated narrowband operations. This as the regulatory agency issues a Public Notice reminding all licensees, frequency coordinators, equipment manufacturers, and other interested parties of the Commission's January 1, 2013 deadline to migrate to 12.5 kHz or narrower channel spacing technology.

By January 1, 2013, all VHF/UHF Industrial, Business and Public Safety Radio Pool licensees must operate on 12.5 kHz or narrower channels, or employ a technology that achieves the narrowband equivalent of at least one channel per 12.5 kHz of channel bandwidth. As of that same date equipment manufacturers will no longer be permitted to manufacture and import previously certified equipment that includes a 25 kHz channel spacing mode.

The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, and Office of Engineering and Technology have issued prior guidance by Public Notice regarding narrowbanding migration, compliance, and waiver requests. In addition, detailed information and references to other resources concerning narrowbanding are available at www.fcc.gov/narrowbanding.

We should add that the amateur 2 meter and 70 centimeter bands are not affected by this FCC mandated narrowbanding order. It only affects commercial land mobile operations.

In the world of amateur radio FM and repeaters, most regions already use 15 kHz channel separation on 2 meters. On 70 centimeters, some regions are reportedly considering a shift from 25 to 12.5 kHz in crowded urban areas. And to be different than the rest of the nation, Southern California shifted from 25 to 20 kHz inter system spacing in the 70 centimeter repeater subband several years ago. (FCC, ARNewsline(tm) archive)

**

RADIO LAW: VERIZON PROCEEDS WITH SPECTRUM ACQUISITIONS

A big move by telecommunications provider Verizon to ease its own spectrum crunch. Jim Davis, W2JKD, reports:

--

Verizon is set to invest in well over 100 licenses to operate broadband systems between 1700 MHz and 2100 MHz. This after spending $3.6 billion dollars to obtain spectrum from cable companies Comcast, Time Warner Cable and Bright House. Jim Davis, W2JKD, has the details:

Verizon says that the acquisition is a positive development which would take spectrum that had been gathering dust in the cable company's inventories and put it in the hands of a company with the motivation and wherewithal to put it to good use.

Lowell McAdam is Verizon's Chief Executive Officer. He recently told the Communications Daily industry newsletter that his company feels good about the acquisition from another perspective. This is because as Verizon has discussed its acquisition of spectrum with the FCC, it has found that one of the problems was there is a lot of spectrum that has been warehoused. This says McAdam takes spectrum with no plans for commercial service and gets it into the hands of somebody who will use it and allow additional investment and development.

Im Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

Congress and the FCC are trying to push through a spectrum package involving the auction of spectrum in the television band but that has become bogged down in partisan politics. However it appears as if Verizon has taken the initiative to let the free enterprise market set the value and proceed on its own. (Future Communications)

**

DIY RADIO NEWS: CQ TO INTRODUCE MAKER COLUMN

CQ magazine will introduce a quarterly "Maker" column, to be written by Matt Stultz, KB3TAN, that will appear in the March, June, September and December issues of the magazine.

KB3TAN is the founder of "HackPittsburgh. This is a community workshop for makers in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has been a ham since 2009

and has integrated amateur radio into many of HackPittsburgh's activities.

As already reported, the hacker and maker movement is a worldwide do-it-yourself phenomenon among mostly younger, tech-savvy individuals who enjoy hands-on tinkering and experimenting with electronics, crafts and similar projects. Many "makers" are not familiar with amateur radio, even though hams have been "makers" since the dawn of radio. CQ says that the goal of this column to help build and strengthen bridges between the amateur radio and the maker communities. (CQ)

**

DIY RADIO NEWS: MULTIPLE LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF THE DIY MAGIC OF AMATEUR RADIO

And speaking of the maker and hacker communities, while it's not even been out a month, there appear to be several groups that have either asked permission to translate the ARRL's new the DIY Magic of Amateur Radio video into other languages or are already undertaking such a project.

Since its release last December 27th, word is that versions with either sub titles or over-dubbed audio are being prepared by individuals or groups around the globe in the Spanish, Portugese and possibly even Russian languages. And these are the ones that are known about.

Also, Tom Medlin who hosted the December 27th release of the video on his W5KUB website has made available some statistics. These show that the new video had viewers in Canada, Venezuela, Mexico, Argentina, France, Cayman Islands, Puerto Rico and New Zealand as well as across the United States.

Those who have not yet seen the new video can do so on-line on YouTube in English at tinyurl.com/arrl-diy-movie. You can also watch it or download it at www.arrl.org/DIY. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

HAM PUBLICATIONS: WINTER 5 MHZ NEWSLETTER NOW ON LINE

The Winter edition of the 5MHz Newsletter has just been published and includes a chart of the current 5MHz allocations worldwide. Although originating in the United Kingdom the publication invites worldwide readers and contributors to take an active part in its creation. The latest edition of the 5MHz Newsletter can be downloaded free of charge at tinyurl.com/72mozfx. (GB2RS)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: FORMER UK OFF SHORE DJ KNIGHTED

Some names in the news. First up is Roger James Gale, a Disk Jockey on Radio Caroline North and Caroline South in the 1960's, who has been

knighted in the United Kingdom's New Year's Honors List. Gale had a long career in radio before becoming the member of Parliament for the North of Kent. He is also the president of the group Conservative Animal Welfare. More about Roger Gale is on-line at www.rogergale.com. (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: G3KMA AND G3ZAY NAMED WINNERS OF YASME AWARD

And congratulations to Roger Ballister, G3KMA and Martin Atherton, G3ZAY on being named as recipients of the Yasme Excellence Award for 2011. This, in recognition for their dedicated work for the Islands on the Air program. The Yasme Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to amateur radio, including DXing and the introduction and promotion of amateur radio in underdeveloped countries. (RSGB)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VLA TO BE RENAMED KARL G JANSKY VLA

The world's most famous radio telescope will become the Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array on March 31st. This, to honor the founder of radio astronomy which is the study of the universe using radio signals naturally emitted by objects in space.

The National Radio Astronomy Observatory announced the new name for the National Science Foundation's Very Large Array at the American Astronomical Society's meeting in Austin, Texas. The new name will become official at a rededication ceremony at the radio telescopes site in New Mexico.

The new name was selected from among 23,331 suggestions submitted by 17,023 people from more than 65 countries. The National Radio Astronomy Observatory had asked the public and the astronomical community to suggest names that reflected both the proud heritage and the future promise of the telescope array. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/jansky-vla. (NARO)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: THE HCJB COAX CABLE MIRACLE

Word that religious broadcaster HCJB has gotten its Radio Rasuwa project on the air as of last December the 1st, but not without a little divine guidance. An HCJB article about the rural Nepal radio project noted that engineer Ty Stakes fortuitously grabbed an extra length of coaxial cable as he packed for the journey to that lonely corner of the world. And it's a good thing that he did.

It turned out to be needed because the station's studio was not where it had been planned. Once on-site, Stakes and HCJB missionary Toffer King discovered the tower was not the one they had requested. Using local talent, translations and drawings solutions were crafted. A local welder found himself quite busy and needless to say that the extra length of coax that Stakes brought with him came to good use.

HCJB's Global Technical Center in Elkhart, Indiana provided the FM transmitter. The station's coverage area is the northern border of Nepal with an estimated 14,000 people as its potential audience. This includes a large number of Tibetan refugees fleeing Chinese control of their country.

The station will air 17 hours a day, in the local language. It joins five other HCJB FMs in Nepal. Three more are expected to launch during 2012. (RW, HCJB)

**

WORLDBEAT: RAC LOOKING FOR NEW DEFENSE OF AMATEUR RADIO FUND TRUSTEE

Radio Amateurs of Canada is looking for a person to fill the recently vacated position of trustee in the Canadian Defense of Amateur Radio Fund. The Defense of Amateur Radio Fund trustee must be a licensed Canadian radio amateur and may not be an officer, employee, director or agent of Radio Amateurs of Canada. The Defense of Amateur Radio Fund is a Trust Fund established in the early 1990's to provide financial support for travel expenses of an amateur radio representative on the Canadian delegation to World Radio Conferences to defend the amateur radio bands. If you fit the requirements and are interested in this position please provide your name and a brief resume of no more than 500 words by e-mail to Paul Burggraaf at Vo1prb73064 (at) rac (dot) ca. (RAC)

**

WORLDBEAT: IRTS TO CELEBRATE 80TH ANNIVERSARY WITH CONTEST

The Irish Radio Transmitting Society which is Irelands national ham radio organization will be celebrating its 80th anniversary by sponsoring a worldwide contest to commemorate the event. Called CQIR, it will take place most appropriately on Saint Patrick's Day, which this year occurs on Saturday, March 17th. Full rules and information are available on-line at www.irts.ie/cqir or by email to cqir (at) irts (dot) ie. (IRTS)

**

WORLDBEAT: EMI SOUNDS PAGE FROM ON4WW

ON4WW in Westham, Belgium, has created a web page with sound clips that covers the many cases of interference he's dealt with over the years. The sounds cover everything from a rain gutter noise to plasma TV interference and even L-E-D lighting. The ON4WW RFI audio page page is on-line at www.on4ww.be/emi-rfi.html (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: DUTCH ANNOUNCE FUNCUBE LAUNCH AGREEMENT

An agreement has now been reached with ISIS Launch Services BV, based in Delft in the Netherlands, for them to provide a launch of the FUNcube-1 CubeSat satellite. It is anticipated that this will be with a number of other spacecraft from a DNEPR rocket, sometime in the third quarter of 2012.

The orbit is still to be defined precisely but it is expected to be nearly circular and approximately sun synchronous. The FUNcube-1 spacecraft will transmit signals that can be easily received directly by schools and colleges for educational outreach purposes. In addition to providing these educational services for schools and colleges around the world, the spacecraft will also carry a UHF to VHF linear transponder for radio amateurs to use during local nights, weekends and during holiday periods.

The construction and testing of the spacecraft itself has already been funded via a legacy and other sources. For more information, check out www.funcube.org.uk (GB2RS)

**

SPACE SCIENCE: CHINA RELEASES FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR SPACE EXPLORATION

China plans to launch orbital space laboratories and manned ships and prepare to build space stations over the next five years. This according to a plan released Thursday, December 29th that shows the country's space program is very quickly gathering momentum.

China has already said its eventual goals are to have a space station on-orbit and put an astronaut on the moon. According to news reports, that nation has made systematic progress with its ambitious human spaceflight programs, but its latest five-year plan beginning signals a major acceleration to its space exploration program.

According to the white paper setting out China's space progress and future missions, by the end of 2016 China says that it will launch space laboratories, manned spaceships and ship freighters. It will also make technological preparations for the construction of more than one space station.

China's space program has already made major breakthroughs in a relatively short time, although it lags far behind the United States and Russia in space technology and experience. More on China's plans

for its future in space is on-line at tinyurl.com/d52q2lj (Space Science)

**

ON THE AIR W4NH FOURLANDERS SEEK WSJT CONTACTS IN VHF SWEEPS

The W4NH Fourlanders group will again be operating in the January VHF Sweepstakes from January 21st to the 23rd from its location near Dahlonega, Georgia. That is in grid square EM-84-ao.

According to Jim Worsham, W4KXY, the group will operate limited multi category on 6meters through 432 MHz running a full gallon into stacked beams on all four bands.

W4KXY notes that the group is looking for skeds, especially 6 and 2 meters with those operating WSJT. If you are interested in such a scheduled contact please contact Jim Worsham by e-mail to wa4kxy (at) bellsouth (dot) net. (VHF Reflector)

**

DX

In DX, G3PHO will be on the air as 9H3C from Malta's Gozo Island between March 8th and the 15th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters and possibly 160m. Look for him to be an entry in the RGSB Commonwealth Contest. QSL via his home callsign or Logbok of the World.

JS6RRR will be operational stroke KH2 from Guam between February 10th and the 14th. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, FM, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via JS6RRR.

IK2GZU will be in Tanzania to do some work at a new hospital and orphanage between March 4th and April 4th. He plans to be active during his spare time as 5H3MB on the HF bands. QSL via IK2GZU, direct or by the Bureau. Also, via Logbook of the World, but only after his return home.

IK2QPR will be active stroke PJ7 from Sint Maarten through January 16th. This operation will be holiday style on the H-F bands. QSL via IK2QPR.

IW2CXJ will be active portable YS3 from El Salvador through January 24th. His operation will also be holiday style on 40-10 meters using a Cushcraft R7 vertical and 100 watts. QSL via LoTW, eQSL or direct to IW2CXJ.

Lastly, OE3GEA will take to the airwaves stroke 6Y5 from Jamaica between February 2nd and the 12th. This will be yet another holiday style operation, mainly using CW. QSL to his home address.

And for those not familiar with the term holiday style, it basically means that the ham in question is on vacation and will get on the air anytime that he or she feels like operating, if at all.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF COUNTRY MUSIC LEGEND JOHNNY CASH

And finally this week, ham radio will help commemorate the life of a country music legend. Tim Goodrich, N5ASH, better known to radio listeners as Skeeter Nash, joins us with the details:

--

Members of my club, the Northeast Arkansas Radio Club will be sponsoring the first ever Johnny Cash Birthday Celebration Special Event Station. This, on what would have been the late Country Music Hall of Fame and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame members 80th birthday.

The Johnny Cash Birthday Celebration Special Event Station will take to the air on Sunday, February 26th using the special call sign N5C. You can listen out for it beginning at 18:00 hours UTC which is noon Central U-S time. We plan to operate for a six hour period ending around 6 p.m. Central US time. .

N5C will have stations operating SSB on the 80, 40 20 and 10 meter bands. At least one of these will be located in Dyess Colony, not far from the house where the Cash family once lived.

Johnny Cash never forgot his roots here in northeast Arkansas, and we in the amateur radio community are looking forward to having the opportunity to honor one of the most recognizable figures in music history. Those making contact with N5C will receive a commemorative certificate.

>From Jonesboro, Arkansas, Im Tim Goodrich, N5ASH, a-k-a Skeeter Nash of the Northeast Arkansas Radio Club reporting for the Amateur Radio Newsline.

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More information on this celebration can be found at the Northeast Arkansas Radio Club website. It's located in cyberspace at nea-rc.org. The club also maintains a Facebook page at eww.facebook.com/nearadioclub (N5ASH)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm),

28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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11. N connectors for LMR 600 Ultra Flex

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-14 14:03:00 UTC
From: JIMMIE <jimmie68@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <30c8f185-05f1-4a44-9112-406a391948ed@k29g2000vbl.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 530

What's the best N connectors for LM600 ultraflex cable. I had SWR problems with one antenna that I troubleshot to the connector. Crimp was corroded and plating peeling off. Checked two other cables I had installed while they still seeemed electrically sound the corrosion was also present. Antennas had been well sealed and no detectable moisture inside. Even the ends in the shack were gunked. Help on this would be much appreciated.

KD4RQE
Jimmie

12. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-15 07:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1326610801@panix.com>
Source record: 531
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
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Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

13. The ARRL Letter for January 19, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-19 22:56:30 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120119204136.9A06024E05@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 532
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

January 19, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + ARRL Board of Directors Holds 2012 Annual Meeting, Okays Electronic
Balloting for Division Elections
- + ARRL Bestows Awards at 2012 Annual Meeting
- + ARRL Board Welcomes Rick Niswander, K7GM, as New Treasurer
- + A Reminder: Postage Rates To Rise this Month
- + Army MARS Resumes Use of Winlink 2000
- + US District Court for Maine Issues Order Granting Summary Judgment
against Glenn Baxter, K1MAN
- Solar Update
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS HOLDS 2012 ANNUAL MEETING, OKAYS
ELECTRONIC BALLOTING FOR DIVISION ELECTIONS

The ARRL Board of Directors held its 2012 Annual Meeting January
13-14, 2012 in Windsor, Connecticut, under the chairmanship of
President Kay Craigie, N3KN. Newly elected Delta Division Director
David Norris, K5UZ, attended his first Board meeting as Director. In
addition, two recently elected Vice Directors -- Glen Clayton, W4BDB,
Delta Division, and Dale Williams, WA8EFK, Great Lakes Division --
attended their first Board meeting.

After viewing a demonstration of electronic balloting, the Board
adopted amendments to the ARRL Bylaws that will permit the
implementation of electronic voting in the 2012 fall elections for
Director and Vice Director of the Central, Hudson, New England,
Northwestern and Roanoke Divisions. Plans call for paper ballots still
to be mailed to those members who have not shared their e-mail
addresses with the ARRL, or who simply prefer to cast their votes by
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mail. Supervision of the balloting is the responsibility of the Ethics and Elections Committee. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-board-of-directors-holds-2012-annual-meeting-okays-electronic-balloting-for-division-elections>.

==> + ARRL BESTOWS AWARDS AT 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

The ARRL Board of Directors had the pleasure and distinction of bestowing three annual awards on six recipients at its 2012 Annual Meeting: The George Hart Distinguished Service Award, the Bill Leonard, W2SKE, Professional Media Award for print, audio and video, and the ARRL International Humanitarian Award. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-bestows-awards-at-2012-annual-meeting>.

==> + ARRL BOARD WELCOMES RICK NISWANDER, K7GM, AS NEW TREASURER

When ARRL Treasurer Jim McCobb, K1LU, announced last year that he would retire after more than three decades of volunteer service to the ARRL, ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, appointed a search committee to find a suitable replacement. The committee received many resumes from League members, and after interviewing several applicants, selected Rick Niswander, K7GM, of Greenville, North Carolina. At the 2012 ARRL Annual Meeting, Niswander was elected by the Board of Directors as the sixth Treasurer of the ARRL.

Niswander -- an ARRL Life Member -- has been the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance for East Carolina University since 2010, where he is the senior executive responsible for all financial, administrative, and operational activities at the university. Prior to that appointment, he served as ECU's Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs and Dean of its College of Business. He is also a Professor of Accounting at the university. Niswander is also the Executive Treasurer for the ECU Foundation, the ECU Medical Foundation, the ECU Alumni Association and the Pirate Club (the ECU athletic booster club). A Certified Public Accountant since 1981, he holds a BBA in Accounting from Idaho State University and a PhD in Accounting from Texas A&M University. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-board-welcomes-rick-niswander-k7gm-as-new-treasurer>.

==> + A REMINDER: POSTAGE RATES TO RISE THIS MONTH

Beginning Sunday, January 22, it will cost more to mail first class letters, postcards and packages within the US. The cost to mail a first class letter will be 45 cents, an increase of 1 cent. According to the USPS, this is the first increase since May 2009. The cost of mailing a postcard will be 32 cents, an increase of 3 cents. This is the second increase for postcard postage in less than a year; in April 2011, the USPS boosted the postcard stamp price from 28 cents to 29 cents. You will also pay more to send letters to Canada, Mexico and other international destinations. Click here <http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2011/pr11_factsht_pricechng_101

8.pdf>
for more information on all the postal increases.

==> + ARMY MARS RESUMES USE OF WINLINK 2000

According to Government Liaison for Army MARS
<http://www.netcom.army.mil/mars/> Pudge Forrester, AAA9GL, Lieutenant
General Susan Lawrence has reversed the decision to phase out the use
of the Winlink 2000 <http://www.winlink.org/> global radio e-mail
system by Army MARS members. General Lawrence stated that the Army --
after reviewing its capabilities -- had decided that the continued use
of Winlink 2000 was a valuable asset to Army MARS members and to the
agencies that were using the service. She issued a statement to that
effect on December 21, 2011. On January 5, 2012, the Chief of Army MARS
officially notified his membership that the phase out notice had been
rescinded. Army MARS members and agencies who had been using the
service hailed the decision by General Lawrence and resumed use of
Winlink 2000.

==> + US DISTRICT COURT FOR MAINE ISSUES ORDER GRANTING SUMMARY
JUDGMENT AGAINST GLENN BAXTER, K1MAN

On January 10, the US District Court for Maine issued a ruling in
the FCC's lawsuit to collect monetary forfeitures issued to Glenn
Baxter, K1MAN, of Belgrade Lakes, Maine. The FCC had assessed
forfeitures in the amount of $21,000 against Baxter
<http://www.arrl.org/news/us-charges-k1man-with-failure-to-pay-fine> on
three asserted violations of the Communications Act of 1934 and its
regulations: Failure to respond to an FCC inquiry in violation of Title
47, Section 308 of the US Code
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode47/usc_sec_47_00000308----000-.
html>,
willful or malicious interference with other radio transmissions in
violation of Section 97.101(d)
<http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&sid=47ae9117aa64a743f2b
dfb3db7c32da6&rgn=div8&view=text&node=47:5.0.1.1.6.2.157.1&idno=47>,
and engaging in communications in which he has a pecuniary interest in
violation of Section 97.113(a)(3)
<http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&sid=47ae9117aa64a743f2b
dfb3db7c32da6&rgn=div8&view=text&node=47:5.0.1.1.6.2.157.7&idno=47>.

Chief US District Judge John A. Woodcock Jr, in writing for the Court,
agreed with the FCC on the first two counts -- willful or repeated
failure to respond to FCC requests for information, and willful or
malicious interference -- and granted summary judgments to the FCC in
the amount of $3000 and $7000, respectively. On the third claim --
communications in which an amateur station licensee or control operator
has a pecuniary interest -- the Court declined to grant a summary
judgment to the FCC, holding that there were issues of material fact to
be litigated in the Court in later proceedings. Find a link to the
complete decision here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/us-district-court-for-maine-confirms-summary-judgme

nt-against-glenn-baxter-k1man>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Fooling me like the Sun in the winter
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HVdT3D820Y>" Cook, K7RA, reports: New sunspot groups appeared on every day over the past week. On January 12, new sunspot group 1396 appeared, and the next day two more -- 1397 and 1398 -- popped into view. On January 14, four new sunspot groups appeared: 1399, 1400, 1401 and 1402. January 15 saw group 1391 vanish and new group 1403 emerge. Two more appeared January 16 -- 1404 and 1405 -- while 1397 vanished. On January 17, 1406 appeared and 1395 disappeared, while 1407 emerged on January 18. The average daily sunspot numbers rose this week, from 90.6 to 116.9, while the solar flux stayed about the same, changing from 134.9 to 133.4. The latest predictions have a solar flux of 150 on January 19-20, 155 on January 21-22, 160 on January 23-25, 155 on January 26, 140 on January 27-29, and 135 on January 30-February 6; we are still looking for a solar flux peak of 165 on February 17-21. The predicted flux values of 160 on January 23-25 are markedly higher than the 145 predicted last week for the same dates. The predicted planetary A index is 6, 8, 5, 8 and 12 on January 19-23, and 5 on January 24 through the end of the month. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, January 20. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page
<http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Max Graham's Sun in Winter
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Max_Graham>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- January 20 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 21 -- Feld Hell Sprint; LZ Open Contest
- January 21-22 -- North American QSO Party (SSB); Hungarian DX Contest; YL-ISSB QSO Party (SSB)
- January 21-23 -- ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
<http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf-sweepstakes>
- January 25 -- SKCC Sprint
- January 25-26 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- January 27 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint; NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 27-29 -- CQ 160 Meter Contest (CW)
- January 28-29 -- BARTG RTTY Sprint; REF Contest (CW); UBA DX Contest (SSB); SPAR Winter Field Day
- January 28 -- WAB 1.8 MHz Phone Contest
- January 29 -- QRP ARCI Fireside SSB Sprint
- January 29-30 -- Classic Exchange (CW)

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- January 27-28 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capitol-city-hamfest-1>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- February 4 -- ARRL Virginia State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-state-convention-frostfest-2012>,
Richmond, Virginia; ARRL South Carolina State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-1>,
Ladson, South Carolina
- February 10-12 -- ARRL Northern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northern-florida-section-convention-orlando-hamcation-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 17-18 -- ARRL Southwestern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southwestern-division-convention-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- February 18 -- ARRL Arkansas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-section-convention-1>, Hoxie,
Arkansas
- February 25 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/vermont-state-convention-ham-con-2>,
South Burlington, Vermont
- March 3 -- ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/santa-clara-valley-section-convention-radiofest>,
Del Rey Oaks, California; ARRL South Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-hamfest-2>,
Rosenberg, Texas
- March 3-4 -- ARRL Alabama Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-section-convention-birminghamfest-1>,
Birmingham, Alabama
- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana-hamfest>,
Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-tm>,

Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest
>,
Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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Join or Renew Today! <http://www.arrl.org/join> ARRL membership
includes QST <http://www.arrl.org/qst>, Amateur Radio's most popular
and informative journal, delivered to your mailbox each month.

Subscribe to NCJ -- the National Contest Journal
<http://www.arrl.org/ncj>. Published bi-monthly, features articles by
top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#%21/edit-info-email_subscripti
ons>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org>. Follow us on
Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store>
to enhance your enjoyment of Amateur Radio

Donate <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form> to the fund of your
choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

Click here <ads@arrl.org> to advertise in this newsletter.

The ARRL Letter is published Thursdays, 50 times each year. ARRL
members and registered guests may subscribe at no cost or unsubscribe
by editing their profile

<http://www.arrl.org/Users/edit#!/edit-info-email_subscriptions>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

14. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1797 - January 20 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-20 12:29:31 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120120100003.9C8DD33C5F@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 533
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1797 - January 20 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1797 with a release date of
January 20th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. QRZ.com joins the fight to kill the SOPA act
now in congress; MARS resumes using Winlink; D-Star will be going
on-orbit later this year and a tribute to the man who guided the change
from vacuum tubes to solid state. Find out the details are on Amateur
Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1797 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: QRZ.COM JOINS THE FIGHT TO STOP SOPA AND PIPA

The giant QRZ.com ham radio website has joined the fight to stop
passage of SOPA, the Stop Online Piracy Act, and PIPA, a similar bill
working its way through the U-S Senate. Amateur Radio Newsline's Robert
Sudock, WB6FDF, reports on why QRZ.com and its owner Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ
is taking this hard-line stand.

--

Why should ham radio care about these two bills? According to
publisher Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, the measures are sponsored by Hollywood
entertainment corporations and the recording industry. They threaten to
destroy the internet as we know it. And in his front page posting on
the QRZ.com, he lists what he terms "the facts about the bills."

According to AA7BQ, websites will be required to police their own
content for copyright violations of all kinds. Any website found in
violation of the intellectual property of another party must be shut
down -- it's internet access blocked by its Internet Service Provider,
DNS de-listing, and all banking transactions via online payment
providers would be stopped.

Lloyd notes that there is no burden of proof required to shut down a
website. Any claim of copyright infringement could result in a court
ordered shutdown.

Website owners will be responsible for policing content uploaded by
their users. A violation could be ridiculously minor to qualify such as
uploading a trademarked image, a photo of a celebrity, a clipping from
a newspaper, an audio clip from movie, or the like. Also, uploading a
copyrighted song or video would become a felony under the US Code.

And it is not just domestic websites that would be impacted. The law would apply to foreign websites as well, requiring United States based Internet Service Providers to block access to those sites.

Lloyd then notes that this law could also kill his site, QRZ.com, as users know it. He notes that the site currently has some 300,000 photographs on its server, all of which would have to be taken down and manually verified to be in compliance. The same thing would hold true for each biography page where a photograph or other image exists.

Lloyd says that in his case, there's no way he could do it. If burdened with this sort of responsibility, QRZ would simply be found in violation and forcibly shut down by the federal government, all in an to protest both bills many websites went dark on Wednesday, January 18 effort to please what he terms as Hollywood and the music industries.

To protest both bills, many websites went dark on Wednesday, January 18. The Amateur Radio Newsline provides a short video insert in the TWiT network's Ham Nation podcast each Tuesday evening. That network did not go dark, but devoted its live programming to the SOPA and PIPA topics. As we go to air the programs should be rendered and posted for download in both audio and video formats. Go to www.twit.tv and look for "Security Now," "This Week in Google," "Tech News Today," and "Triangulation" for a more detailed and web centric discussion.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Robert Sudock, WB6FDF, in Los Angeles.

--

AA7BQ ends his posting by asking those who use his website to contact their Congressmen and Senators to voice your opposition to both of these measures, especially SOPA. He says that it's not just QRZ.com that depends on their action. Rather he says, it's the entire internet as they know it today. (QRZ.com, TWIT.tv, ARNewsline(tm))

**

RESCUE RADIO: ARMY MARS RESUMES USE OF WINLINK 2000

The Army's Military Auxiliary Radio System better known simply as Army MARS is back using WinLink 2000. The ARRL reports that Lieutenant General Susan Lawrence has reversed the decision to phase out the use of the global radio e-mail system by Army MARS members that was issued late last year.

Lieutenant General Lawrence stated that the Army, after reviewing its capabilities, had decided that the continued use of WinLink 2000 would be in MARS best interest. She went on to call it a valuable asset to Army MARS members and agencies that were using the service.

On January 5, 2012, the Chief of Army MARS officially notified the membership that the phase out notice had been rescinded. Army MARS members and agencies who had been using the service hailed the decision by Lieutenant General Lawrence and have resumed use of the WinLink 2000

radio e-mail system.

More about WinLink 2000 is on the web at www.winlink.org. (ARRL)

**

RADIO GROWTH: DXCC SEES AN INCREASE IN APPLICATIONS

Interest in DX is growing. So says the ARRL as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has more:

--

The ARRL reports that it appears as if more amateurs are working DX these days. This in turn means the ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department, especially the DXCC Desk and the ARRL Incoming and Outgoing QSL Bureaus, are working very hard in processing applications and sending out cards via the different QSL Bureaus.

In 2010, the DXCC Desk processed 7134 applications for initial awards and endorsements. These 2010 applications included 853,462 QSOs. In 2011, the DXCC Desk processed 11,175 applications, representing 1,250,864 QSOs.

Sharon Taratula is the Membership and Volunteer Programs Administrative Manager. She explained that comparing 2010 to 2011 represents a 47 percent increase in the number of QSO's and a 57 percent increase in the number of applications received.

And that's quite an impressive increase in any area of ham radio.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

--

To learn more about this increase in DX, go to tinyurl.com/dxcc-numbers on the world wide web. And we will have more DX related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (ARRL)

**

BREAKING DX NEWS: VP6T PITARICAN OPERATION SAYS NO 6 METERS

The VP6T DXpedition to Pitcarin Island will not be on 6 meters nor any exotic modes such as EME or SSTV. Nor will it likely even show up on 60 meters.

The operation which begins on January 20th and continues through February 4th has issued a press statement explaining its decision to concentrate its operations on the traditional and popular High Frequency bands.

According to the team they are a small group and are limited in baggage weight and size. As such they were forced to make choices. And while most of the team are 6 meter operators, they reached a decision not to

spend much their time and effort on this band.

For these reasons no 6 meter antenna will be taken with them and no time slot is booked for 6 meter operation. For more details, updates along the suggested frequencies for the VP6T DXpedition please visit the operations website at www.vp6t.org. (Southgate)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Caravan Club Net in Albuquerque New Mexico.

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: STUDENT HAM RADIO D-STAR SATELLITE TO LAUNCH LATER THIS YEAR

D-Star should be in space before the end of 2012. Students at the University of Liege in Belgium are hoping their D-Star based ham radio satellite OUFTI-1 will be launched towards the end of this year if at all possible.

Plans originally called for it to be carried to orbit on the maiden flight of the European Space Agency's Vega launch vehicle. That now appears to be out of the question. However team leaders say that other opportunities have been identified and discussions are ongoing with at least one launch provider.

If and when OUFTI-1 makes it to orbit it could mean a lot of those on the fence about purchasing D-Star based gear might just tape the plunge. This in turn would likely result in a major world-wide sales boost for Icom which to date is the only supplier of D-Star based ham radio gear.

An update on the satellite and plans to get it into space have been published in the January 2012 issue of the OUFTI-1 Newsletter. That issue focuses on the current status and near-future of D-Star based bird. You can read it on-line at tinyurl.com/oufti-1-2012. (Various sources)

**

RADIO LAW: JUDGE ISSUES SUMMARY JUDGMENT IN K1MAN FORFEITURE CASE

It's two for the government and one for Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, in the case involving a fine issued to the Maine radio amateur by the FCC several years ago.

In a 38 page ruling issued January 10th, U.S. District Judge John Woodcock Jr., chief of Maine's federal court, upheld two of the three

judgments the FCC sought against Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, of Belgrade Lakes, Maine.

The judge upheld forfeitures totaling $10,000 for violations of the Communications Act of 1934. The two violations were willful or repeated failure to respond to FCC requests for information and conducting willful or malicious interference with other radio transmissions.

Judge Woodcock, however, denied the FCC's request for judgment on a count of engaging in communications in which there is a pecuniary or monetary interest. Specifically, the judge questioned whether Baxter's promotion of his website during his transmissions rose to the level of a violation of FCC rules even though the FCC argued that the website sells merchandise.

The judge extensively cites Baxter's responses to the FCC, including referring to Baxter's personal attacks against a government attorney, and FCC personnel, including retired FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH.

Woodcock conceded in his opinion such attacks by Baxter made it difficult to separate policy and factual disputes. However, the judge concluded that Baxter could not "avoid summary judgment by attempting to manufacture a factual dispute."

At one point, Judge Woodcock asserts: "Clearly, Mr. Baxter is bristling with irritation with the government."

Citing Baxter's arguments and demands for a trial on the ongoing matters, Judge Woodcock ruled that there must be a triable issue. He then ruled that the government had only proven its case for a summary judgment in two of the three matters before him.

But it's probably not over. Baxter is more than likely to file a further appeal on the two matters that Judge Woodcock found for the government. It's also believed that the government will proceed to take the third issue to trial before a judge and jury. (From Actual Court Transcript)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: HAM RADIO AT THE EAGLE CAP EXTREME SLED DOG RACE

Ham radio will be providing the communications for Oregon's only Iditarod and Yukon Quest qualifier race. The 2012 Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race is January 25th to the 28th. Ham radio volunteer communicators we will be using a pair of linked repeaters tied to a remote base to cover the course. Some operators will be camping out in remote locations for the entire time to support the event. In addition, anyone can listen in on all of the events ham radio communications on Echolink conference Node number 367015. More information is on line at www.eaglecapextreme.com (KB7DZR)

**

RADIO AND EDUCATION: THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO SCHOLARSHIPS

The Foundation for Amateur Radio has announced that it will be administering fifty scholarships for the 2012 to 2013 academic year. This, to assist licensed Radio Amateurs in the pursuit of higher education. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, reports:

--

The Foundation for Amateur Radio fully funds two scholarships. The remainder are administered by the foundation, without cost to the various donors.

Only licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards. To qualify, a ham must be planning to pursue a full time course of studies beyond high school and be enrolled, or have been accepted for enrollment, at an accredited university, college or technical school.

The awards range from $300 to $5,000 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Non-US residents are eligible to apply for some of the scholarships.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card to FAR Scholarships, Post Office Box 911,Columbia, Maryland, 21044-0911.

For the Amateur Radio Nrewsline, Im Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

Scholarship applications are also available for download at The Foundation for Amateur radio website. Its in cyberspace at wwr.farweb.org. (FAR)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: WINTERFEST 2012 IN ANNADALE VIRGINIA

Turning to the ham radio social scene, the 36th Annual Winterfest is slated for Sunday, February 26th . This, at the Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, in the city of Annandale, Virginia.

Tailgating starts at 6 am EST with the indoor sales area opening to the public at 8 am. The large, heated indoor area accommodates more than 100 tables operated by commercial vendors, clubs, ham radio organizations and individuals.

This event is sponsored by the Vienna Wireless Society which will also hold a ham radio testing session associated with the hamfest on Saturday, February 25th. More information is on the web at www.viennawireless.org/winterfest.php. (AI4SV)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: PALM SPRINGS CA. HAMFEST JANUARY 28

The annual Palm Springs Hamfest takes place on January 28th from 9 am to 5 pm Pacific Standard Time at 4193 Matthew Drive in Palm Springs, California. Hosted by the Desert RATS Club the show will feature 35 vendors, hands on equipment demonstrations, a swap meet and much more. Talk-in on is on the local 166.940 repeater that requires a 107.2 hertz sub-audible access tone. More information is on-line at desertrats.am. (VE7REZ)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: TIME TO REGISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS WEEKEND

The International Museums Weekend special event will this year take place on the double weekends of June 16th and the 17th and again on the 23rd and the 24th. Hams world-wide are being encouraged to participate by setting up stations in their local museums.

The events organizer is M1BYT. He asks that all those intending to take part to register their museum via the from on the International Museums Weekend website at www.ukradioamateur.co,uk/imw. M1BYT can also be contacted via e-mail to harry (dot) m1byt (at) tiscali (dot) co (dot) uk. (M1BYT)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: 2012 TO BE A LEAP SECOND YEAR

Look for 2012 to be a tiny bit longer than years past. This is because 2012 will be a bit longer than 2011 or 2010. Confused? Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, is here to sort it all out:

--

The International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service has decided to add a leap second to Coordinated Universal Time at the end of June 2012.

The most recent leap was added on December 31, 2008. They have been necessary because of the Earth's unpredictable rotation.

Coordinated Universal Time, better known as UTC is based on highly accurate atomic clocks, but has been kept more or less synchronized with mean solar time by way of leap seconds.

Leap seconds were first introduced in 1972 but may not be with us much longer. Now however, a proposed revision of Standard-Frequency and Time Signal Emissions will be voted by the International Telecommunication Union Radiocommunication Assembly meeting, immediately before this years World Radiocommunication Conference. If the international panel agrees, Leap Seconds will be eliminated by 2018.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, leaping along in Los Angeles.

--

Meantime with this being a so called leap year, February will have a total of 29 days instead of the usual 28, to make up for our rotation around the Sun. So adjust your computer logging software accordingly. (VK3PC)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: DEDICATED CUBESAT SPECTRUM FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

SmallSat, CubeSat, and Nano Satellite developers are seeking a spectrum allocation, outside of the 435 to 437 MHz amateur satellite band that could be dedicated to their specific bandwidth, data rate, and mission requirements.

In a press release ISIS notes that experimental, proof-of-concept demonstration missions find it increasingly more difficult to find spectrum on today's crowded bands. Also, obtaining commercial or research space frequency allocations is beyond the budgetary capability of many of these missions.

ISIS says that some satellite developers may be able to adapt their communication requirements to operate in the amateur radio spectrum. But in order to fully meet mission requirements on other projects a more suitable spectrum is quickly becoming a potential long term need for the emerging nano-satellite market.

ISIS says they plan to attend the World Radio Conference, WRC, this month as part of the Dutch national delegation. This is to make use of the opportunity to informally sound out the various opinions on this matter and investigate potential possibilities for creating a future solution ensuring the spectral needs of the community are met. (ANS)

**

RADIO AND SPACE: NASA SUMMER 2012 INTERNSHIPS FOR STUDENTS

NASA is accepting applications for student summer internship positions at several of its centers around the country. Students can view opportunities and apply for them at intern.nasa.gov by selecting the Student Opportunities tab then clicking on Internships. The application process must be completed at the NASA intern website. The cutoff date to apply for summer internships is February 2nd. (NASA via

ANS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: PLAN YOUR LATE 2012 ARISS SCHOOLROOM CONTACT NOW

NASA's Teaching From Space office is accepting proposals for United States ARISS classroom contacts to be held between July 15, 2012 and January 15, 2013. The deadline for submitting proposals is January 30th. For more information, see the Teaching From Space website at tinyurl.com/ariss-planning-2012. (ANS, KB3LKI)

**

ON THE AIR: HAM RADIO WILL HELP USHER IN THE CHINESE NEW YEAR

On the air, word that the station master for the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society has announced that the special event callsign, 9M4CNY, will be active from Penang Island on January 29th, between 0700 to 1600 UTC. This in honor of the Chinese New Year Cultural and Heritage Celebration for 2012. Suggested frequencies are 7.088 MHz on 40 meters and 14.288 MHz on 20. The operating mode is SSB only. QSL direct only to address for 9M4CNY found on QRZ.com.

**

DX

In DX, F8APV will be active from Reunion Island from January 22nd until February 10th signing portable FR. QSL as directed on the air.

JA6CNH will be active as XV2CNH from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam between February 10th and the 15th. Activity will be on 160through 6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via JA6CNH, direct only.

Lastly, DF7ZS will be active from Aruba Island March 21st to the 27th signing P40S. QSL direct to DF7ZS as his address on QRZ.com.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: NORMAN KRIM - CHAMPION OF THE TRANSISTOR -SK

And finally this week we pay homage Norman Krim, an electronics visionary who played a pivotal role in the industry's transition from vacuum tube to solid state electronics. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Clark, N8TMW, takes a look back at the man who put solid state devices in the hands of experimenters, and ham radio operators world wide:

--

In a long career with the Raytheon Company Norman Krim made several important breakthroughs in popularizing the transistor to experimenters. He also had an early hand in the growth of the RadioShack chain,

Norman Krim did not invent the transistor. That was the work of a scientific team at Bell Laboratories back in 1947. Rather Krim saw the device's potential and persuaded Raytheon to begin manufacturing it on a mass scale, particularly for use in miniaturized hearing aids that he had designed. As a result, thousands of hearing impaired benefited from Krim's initial use of the transistor in compact hearing aids.

But not every transistor Raytheon made was suitable for that purpose and this is where Norman Krim's foresight took hold.

Harry Goldstein is an editor at IEEE Spectrum, the magazine of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He said that when transistors were first being manufactured by Raytheon on a commercial scale, there was a batch called CK722's that were too noisy for use in hearing aids. So Krim contacted editors at magazines like Popular Science and Radio Electronics and began marketing the CK722's to hobbyists. The result was that a whole generation of kid engineers, many likely young ham radio operators working in their garages and basements got to construct all kinds of electronic projects. Among these were early transistor radios, guitar amplifiers, code oscillators, Geiger counters and metal detectors.

Goldstein says that as a result, a lot of them went on to become engineers. And as a result, Norman Krim became known as the father of the CK722.

After leaving Raytheon, Norman Krim bought two electronics stores in Boston called RadioShack. By the time he sold the business to the Tandy Corporation two years later, it had seven stores. Today the chain has about 7,300.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Jeff Clark, K8JAC.

--

News reports say that Norman Krimm passed away of congestive heart failure last December 14th in a retirement home in Newton, Massachusetts, at age 98. As far as we can determine, he was not a radio amateur. That said, the impact he had on our hobby was and is truly immeasurable. (RW and other published reports)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, in Lima, Ohio, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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15. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-22 07:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1327215601@panix.com>
Source record: 534
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

16. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-22 07:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1327215900@panix.com>
Source record: 535
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

17. ARRL Foundation Scholarship Application Deadline is February 1

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-24 05:13:08 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120124045303.95BD423C28@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 536
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

Calling all college students and high school seniors!
The ARRL Foundation Scholarship Application Deadline is February 1!

Will you be nominated to receive one of the prestigious ARRL Foundation Scholarships? Only a week remains until the application period for the 2012 scholarships closes on February 1.

Each year the ARRL Foundation awards dozens of scholarships to young hams pursuing higher education. The total of those awards tops $80,000! Several hundred of the country’s top high school and college students vie for awards ranging from $500 to $5000.

It’s easy to apply!

All the selection criteria, application forms and instructions can be found on the web at www.arrl.org/scholarship-program. Some scholarships have geographic criteria, others have a preference for field of study, and still others have no curricular or residence requirement.

The fundamental requirement is that an applicant be active FCC-licensed radio amateur. The application process is completely electronic, including the required academic transcript.

If you know a young ham who is attending college or is a high school senior, let them know that the deadline is only a week away.

Any questions may be emailed to foundation@arrl.org. But do it soon! Time is running out!

73, Cliff K0CA

ARRL Midwest Division
Director: Cliff Ahrens, K0CA
k0ca@arrl.org
---

18. FCC Daily Digest 01/24/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-24 16:58:28 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-508176-2012.01.24-11.10.46--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 537
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 15 January 24,
2012

[...]

ANCHORAGE VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COORDINATOR. Denied the Waiver Request. (Dk
t No. 11-130). Action by: Deputy Chief, Mobility Division, Wireless Tele
communications Bureau. Adopted: 01/23/2012 by ORDER. (DA No. 12-79). WTB
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-79A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-79A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-79A1.txt

[...]

19. FCC Daily Digest 01/25/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-25 18:00:41 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-508358-2012.01.25-12.14.55--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 538
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 16 January 25,
2012

[...]

Report No: 440 Released: 01/25/2012. EXPERIMENTAL ACTIONS. OET http://h
raunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-312107A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-312107A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-312107A1.txt

[...]

20. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1798 - January 27 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-27 10:00:14 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120127100003.ACC2033C7E@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 539
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1798 - January 27 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1798 with a release date of
January 27th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The FCC nixes a waiver request from
Anchorage VEC that would have lead to instant re-licensing of hams with
expired licenses but the proposal is far from dead. Also ham radio to
be discussed at WRC 2012; International cooperation removes a noise
generator from 40 meters and the city of Los Angeles celebrate the life
of a ham who started broadcast emergency alerting, Find out the
details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1798 coming
your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC SAYS NO TO LICENSE ELEMENT WAIVER REQUEST

The FCC has turned away a request from Alaska's Anchorage Volunteer
Examination Coordinator for a temporary blanket waiver of Section
97.505(a) of the Commission's Rules. This, to allow the VEC to give
individuals whose amateur radio operator licenses have expired
examination credit for test elements previously passed so that all
former licensees could be re-licensed without retesting. Amateur Radio
Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

The Anchorage VEC had filed for the waiver pending the outcome of a
related rulemaking petition in FCC Docket WT 11-130. That request
seeks the same end but on a permanent nationwide basis.

But in its denial order the FCC noted that individuals who do not hold
a current or renewable amateur radio operator license, regardless of
whether they have held one in the past, must demonstrate their
qualifications to be amateur radio operators before obtaining a new
license. As such, the approval of the requested waiver to allow
examination credit to be granted for any previously held amateur
service operator license would not serve the underlying purpose of the
regulatory agency's licensing rules.

The FCC also stated that amateur radio testing opportunities are widely
available. It said that Volunteer Examiner teams can administer tests
at any location and time convenient to them and the examinee. As such

Anchorage VEC has not shown that requiring retesting of examinees whose operator licenses expired more than two years ago, including those of advanced years, is inequitable or unduly burdensome, or that these examinees have no reasonable alternative.

But this matter is far from closed. In its conclusion the FCC also noted that the dismissal of the Anchorage VEC's waiver request is a separate matter from the groups pending Rule Making request in FCC Docket WT 11-130. As such this action is without prejudice to Anchorage VEC's pending rule-making petition.

The Report and Order denying the Anchorage VEC's waiver request was issued on Tuesday, January 24th. As we go to air it's not known if the Anchorage VEC will appeal this decision or simply wait for the outcome on its underlying Rule Making request.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

--

The bottom line: At least for now if a ham lets his or her license expire and fails to renew it during the two year grace period, he or she will be back to ground zero and will have to go through the testing procedure before being granted a call sign to get back on the air.

**

RADIO REGULATION: AMATEUR RADIO AT WRC-2012

Amateur radio is mentioned in the preface of the International Telecommunication Union's agenda document for the World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 now taking place in taking place in Geneva, Switzerland. Of interest to the Amateur and Amateur satellite Services is item 1.15. This, to consider possible allocations in the range 3 to 50 MHz to the radio location service for oceanographic radar applications, taking into account the results of ITU-R studies and in accordance with Resolution 612 from WRC-07.

Also, there is item 1.19 to consider regulatory measures and their relevance, in order to enable the introduction of software-defined radio and cognitive radio systems. This one is based on the results of ITU-R studies, and in accordance with Resolution 956 of WRC-07.

Lastly, there are items 1.22 to examine the effect of emissions from short-range devices on radio communication services and item 1.23 which will consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band from 415 to 526.5 kHz to the amateur service on a secondary basis. This, taking into account the need to protect existing services.

WRC 2012 runs through February the 17th. We will all know more once the final reports on all these measures are in and made public. (ITU)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TAKES WHITE NOISE OFF 40 METERS

Interference from All India Radio to the 40 meter band has been eliminated. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasik, K9BIK, has the details:

--

Wolfgang Hadel, DK2OM, in Siegbach, Germany, reports via the I-A-R-U Region 1 website that back last December 1st he and Peter Jost HB9CET of Zurich, Switzerland, noticed a band of white noise like interference on 40 meters. This from 6 dot 960 to 7 dot 040MHz and also on 7 dot 820 MHz and showing up every evening.

Calculation by DK2OM showed the center of the spurious emissions was expected to be on the center 7 dot 410 MHz. From this point the German and Swiss Departments of Post and Telecommunications became involved.

Both offices filed official complaints to their counterpart in India. VU2GMN assisted by filing a personal complaint. On January 13th the transmitter located near the city of New Delhi was reported as having been repaired, and all traces of this source of interference to 40 meters was gone.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I;m Cheryl Lasik, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

More on this story is on-line at www.iaru-1.org. (IARU Region 1)

**

RESCUE RADIO: ALABAMA AGAIN HIT BY TORNADOS

Ham radio was again called out as another group of tornadoes touch down in Alabama. Amateur Radio Newsline's David Black, KB4KCH, is at our South-East Bureau in Birmingham with more:

--

The January 22nd storms that pounded residents in Arkansas and Alabama were particularly difficult to deal with because they hit at night and couldn't be seen. Some tornadoes were wrapped in rain. Damage was reported in five Arkansas counties. One woman was trapped in her home for a time. At least six tornadoes hit areas south and east of Little Rock across the state's Delta region. A 150 year old church was hit and a transmission tower was destroyed. Members of Arkansas Skywarn activated at the request of National Weather Service forecasters in Little Rock. In all, about 60 radio amateurs helped with providing emergency communications across the state.

Hams remained busy as the storms swept east, hitting Alabama during the predawn hours January 23rd. A single supercell thunderstorm produces four tornadoes across central Alabama. Two of the twisters strike

neighborhoods north and west of downtown Birmingham. A 16-year-old girl dies when her home is hit by an 800-yard wide tornado packing winds of 150 miles an hour. An 81-year-old man dies when a tornado hits his mobile home shortly after 3am. In all, forecasters say Alabama was hit by at least eight tornadoes, some of them leaving long tracks of destruction while tearing up hundreds of homes and businesses, and injuring 150 people. The tornadoes hit very close to areas pounded during a series of storms that killed 239 people in the state April 27th, 2011.

Members of the Alabama Emergency Response Team, ALERT, provided severe weather reports to Weather Service forecasters who used the information to issue warnings to the public. Hams with amateur radio clubs in Birmingham and nearby Sylvan Springs were on the air throughout much of the night, as well, assisting emergency management officials. And members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service were active, as well. They provided communications as officials set up shelters for people who lost their homes in the storms.

The winter months typically see what's called a secondary severe weather season across the Southeast. With that in mind, radio amateurs throughout the region are being thanked for their services...and reminded that their help will likely be needed again.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm David Black, KB4KCH, at the South-East Bureau in Birmingham, Alabama.

--

More on this story in future Amateur radio Newsline reports. (KB4KCH, ALERT, ARRL, others)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Hamelton Countyty ARES net serving Hamelton County, Indiana.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW FOLLOW-UP: SEVERAL AMATEUR RADIO WEBSTES SUPPORTED THE SOPA - PIPA BLACKOUT PROTEST

A follow up to last weeks story about the involvement of ham radio in halting the progress of two measures working their way through the U-S Congress. Laws that many say would have destroyed the Internet as we know it today.

While the giant QRZ dot com website took what could best be described as the amateur radio point position in helping to halt the twin bills

in their tacks, it turns out that it was not alone. The Southgate News reports that at least two other ham radio websites took part in the protest. Both the amateur radio HF Link Forum and the APRS site aprs.fi were closed in the United States on Wednesday, January 18th.

The aprs.fi blog noted in advance that it would join Wikipedia and Reddit, and protest the proposed United States Stop Online Piracy or SOPA and the Protect Intellectual Property Act or PIPA legislation by closing down. The blog went on to note that if some APRS user were to post links to copyright infringing material, even when that material would reside somewhere other than aprs.fi itself, that aprs.fi could be shut down in the U.S. and there would not be much that the website owners could do about it.

As we go to air, both SOPA and PIPA have been withdrawn by their respective sponsors in Congress for retooling. That's a fancy way of saying that enough votes had defected to make passage at this time impossible. At the same time it's a way of keeping both pieces of legislation alive for re-introduction to the United States Federal law making process at some later date. And it's a sure bet that content providers such as the motion picture and music industries which basically wrote these two pieces of legislation will try again. (Southgate, ARNewsline(tm))

**

ENFORCEMENT: FORMER AUSTRALIAN HAM ADMITS TO INTERFERING WITH OTHERS

A former ham in VK-land has admitted to being a source of interference on the ham radio bands. This after the 63-year-old man from one of Melbourne's western suburbs pleaded guilty on January 11th to several offences under the Australian Radio Communications Act. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP has more in this report:

--

In testimony, the Australian court hearing the case was told that, until August 2009, the defendant had been a licensed amateur radio operator but was investigated by the Australian Communications and Media Authority following complaints about interference. As a result of the inquiry, the regulatory authority cancelled the defendant's amateur licensee.

But it did not end there. The Australian Communications and Media Authority alleged that he continued to use his amateur radio gear his home to jam the communications other licensed amateur licensees. The execution of the search warrant by the authorities in September of 2011 confirmed that the defendant had a large quantity of radio communications gear. Tests confirmed that the equipment was set to the radio frequencies that had been interfered with.

In its sentencing, the court placed the defendant on a 12-month good behavior bond, ordered him to get rid of all of the seized equipment

within four months and prove to the Australian Communications and Media Authority in writing that he had disposed of the gear.

The unidentified ham is considered lucky. Under Australian telecommunications law the court hearing the case had the option to sentence him to up to 24 months in prison for these offenses.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm_Norm Seeley, KI7UP, reporting from Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

As is policy down-under, the defendants name was not made public by the Australian court. (WIA News)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FLORIDA LPFM FINE LOWERED TO $1500

Back in the United States, a low power FM station that interfered with FAA frequencies in Florida will only have to pay a $1,500 fine for operating without an FCC certified transmitter. This after it successfully convinced the commission to slash the penalty from the original $12,000.

Power Ministries is the licensee of low power station WRLE in Dunnellon, Florida. As reported here on Newsline, last September the Enforcement Bureau issued a notice of apparent liability, saying the station had operated with a non-certified transmitter for about three months in 2010. This action came after an investigation prompted by a complaint of interference it received from the Federal Aviation Administration's Jacksonville Center to Air Traffic Control on133.75 MHz.

The proposed fine was $12,000 but the station appealed in a letter from Power Ministries owner Anthony Downes. The FCC now has rejected his arguments that the fine should be waived on the grounds that he had acted promptly and had not been aware of interference. But the commission has accepted the station's documentation of inability to pay, and it cut the penalty to the $1500 level. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: LIGHTSQUARED ASKS FCC TO CONFIRM ITS RIGHT TO SPECTRUM

The seemingly never ending story continues. This with word that LightSquared, the company that wants to build a nationwide broadband data distribution system has asked the FCC to confirm its right to use the spectrum licensed to it by the federal government. It's also asking the regulatory agency to confirm that commercial G-P-S manufacturers have no right to interference protection from LightSquared's network since they are not licensed users of that spectrum. Amateur Radio Newsline's Burt Hicks has the latest in this report:

--

According to news reports, LightSquared claims that commercial GPS manufacturers are responsible for having designed and sold unlicensed devices that use adjacent spectrum licensed to LightSquared and its predecessor companies. In a petition recently filed with the FCC LightSquared claimed that commercial GPS receivers are not licensed, do not operate under any service rules, and thus are not entitled to any interference protection whatsoever. The petition also noted that the FCC itself has stated that the GPS industry has been on notice for almost a decade that LightSquared was planning to use its spectrum to launch a nationwide broadband network.

LightSquared's petition claims that it has had FCC authorization to build its network for over eight years, and that authorization was endorsed by the GPS industry, and fully reviewed and allowed to proceed by several other government agencies. A company spokesman added that commercial GPS device-makers have had nearly a decade to design and sell devices that do not infringe on LightSquared's licensed spectrum. They have no right to complain in the eleventh-hour about incompatibility when they had ample opportunity to avoid this problem.

As previously reported, LightSquared plans to deploy an open 4G network to be used by existing and new service providers to sell their own devices, applications and broadband connectivity. The company claims that the deployment and operation of the network represent more than $14 billion of private investment over the next eight years.

In its closing remarks the company did moderate its position a tiny bit. It said that while it asks the FCC to confirm its legal rights, LightSquared remains fully committed to cooperate with all parties including the GPS industry, GPS users and the federal government to ensure that its network is deployed in a way that is compatible with GPS users.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Burt Hicks in Los Angeles.

--

LightSquared says that it has always recognized the critical importance of the GPS system. As such it firmly believes that a way can be found for GPS devices to peacefully co-exist adjacent to its network. That said, the GPS industry and Congress are not so sure. (Published News Reports)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: TAPR AND IQUADLABS ANNOUNCE AGREEMENT ON SDR BOARDS

Tucson Amateur Packet Radio and iQuadlabs have jointly announced a sourcing agreement for the open source Software Defined Radio or HPSDR boards. These are the ones best known by their nick-names of Magister, Mercury and Pennylane.

Under the new agreement, Tucson Amateur Packet Radio will acquire inventory of iQuadLabs creating a one-stop source for all open HPSDR boards. On the other side, iQuadLabs will gain the inventory from Tucson Amateur Packet Radio to build pre-configured and tested complete open HPSDR systems.

The end result will be that Tucson Amateur Packet Radio will have all open HPSDR boards in stock, in one place, for those wishing to buy boards, kits and components. And, for the first time in the history of open HPSDR, those who wish to by a completely assembled and tested radio will have a source at iQuadLabs. Zephyr Engineering, Inc will continue to manufacture the assembled boards. (TAPR)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

STRANGE TECHNOLOGY UNKNOWN ANIMAL TAKES KENTUCKY TV STATION OFF THE AIR

A TV station went dark for a short time due to damage from one of the creatures of the wild. Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, has the details:

--

An unidentified animal has been blamed for taking a Kentucky television station off the air. Lexington CBS affiliate WKYT announced on its Facebook page Wednesday, January 11th that it was in the midst of broadcasting a University of Kentucky basketball game when a power outage shut it down.

It turns out that the power interruption was caused by an animal gnawing through a power line on the station's property. Mike Kanarek, WKYT's vice president of operations, told the Lexington Herald-Leader newspaper that the station switched to a back-up generator almost immediately after the animal cut off electricity but it took a few minutes for the transmitter to resume broadcasting.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU.

--

WKYT didn't specify what type of animal caused the disturbance or if it survived the ordeal. (RW)

**

AWARD NEWS: LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD TO SUPPORT CQ OPERATING AWARDS

CQ Communications and ARRL have signed an agreement to begin providing support for CQ-sponsored operating awards by the ARRL's Logbook of the World electronic confirmation system. CQ's awards will be the first non-ARRL awards supported by Logbook of the World and will be phased in, beginning with the CQ WPX award. Additional CQ awards will follow.

The target date for beginning Logbook of the World support for WPX is April 1st. Amateurs will be able to use Logbook of the World logs to generate lists of confirmed contacts to be submitted for WPX credit. Standard Logbook of the World credit fees and CQ award fees will apply.

The ARRL's Logbook of the World system is an interactive database recording contacts between radio amateurs was created in 2003 and has been adopted by 47,500 radio amateurs worldwide. It already has records of 400 million contacts and grows weekly.

The agreement was announced jointly on Tuesday, January 24th by ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, and CQ Communications President Richard Ross, K2MGA. (CQ)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: K5B TO COMMEMORATE THE BATAAN DEATH MARCH

The Mesilla Valley Radio Club of Las Cruces, New Mexico will be operating special events station K5B on March 25th. This, in conjunction with the 23rd annual Bataan Memorial Death March Marathon to be held at the near-by White Sands Missile Range.

K5B will operate from 1000 to 2300 UTC on or near 21.337, 14.330, 7.225, and 3.893 megahertz. A commemorative card will be available by request. If you make contact please QSL with a self addressed stamped business sized envelope to Special Events Station K5B, in care of the Mesilla Valley Radio Club, P. O. Box 1443 Las Cruces, NM 88004-1443. All QSL requests must be received by Friday, April 20th. More information is on-line at www.n5bl.org/bataan. (Mesilla Valley ARC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: SEVHFS SOLICITING PAPERS FOR APRIL CONFERENCE

Papers and other presentations are solicited The 15th Annual Southeastern VHF Society Conference to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina on April 20th and 21st. Submissions are welcomed on both the technical and operational aspects of VHF, UHF and Microwave weak signal amateur radio. The deadline for the submission is February 17th. Send all questions and comments to Robin Midgett via e-mail to K4IDC at comcast dot net. More is on-line at www.svhfs.org. (SEVHFS)

**

HAMVENTION 2012: DAYTON DX DINNER INFORMATION ANNOUNCED

The Southwest Ohio DX Association has announced that it will again sponsor the DX Dinner to be held in conjunction with the 2012 Dayton Hamvention. The date is Friday, May 18th at the Dayton Marriott Hotel in downtown Dayton, Ohio. There will be a cash bar starting at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00 o'clock Eastern time. Reservation information can be found on line at www.,swodxa.org. (SWODXA)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ORLANDO HAMCATION FEBRUARY 10 To 12

The 66th annual Orlando HamCation Amateur Radio and Computer Show will take place on February 10th through the 12th at the Central Florida Fairgrounds, in Orlando, Florida. Presented by the Orlando Amateur Radio Club, HamCation 2012 will feature over 150 commercial vendors offering a wide variety of radio gear, antennas, accessories, test equipment, tools, software and books. There will also be over 400 swap vendors and a large outdoor tailgating area. More information on this fun winter get-away event in the Florida sun is on-line at www dot hamcation.com. (Orlando HamCation)

**

HAMVENTION 2012: N6TR TO BE FEATURED SPEAKER AT DAYTON CONTEST DINNER

2003 Radio Amateur of the Year Larry "Tree" Tyree, N6TR, will be the featured speaker at the 20th Annual Dayton Contest Dinner to be held on Saturday, May 19, 2012 in Dayton, Ohio.

According to the North Coast Contesters who sponsor the dinner, N6TR has an extensive and distinguished contesting resume that goes beyond his many top ten finishes in domestic CW contests. He was one of the founders of the popular Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge and the creator of the twice-a-year Kids Day operating events. Tyree is also the author of the popular TRLOG contest logging software and is responsible for log checking packages that are used to adjudicate many of the major radio contests.

Outside of contests, Tyree spends most of his time chasing new countries on 160 meters. More about this event is on-line at contestdinner.com. (K3LR)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VA2SH/VA6SH ELECTED NEW RAC DIRECTOR FOR QUEBEC

And congratulations to Sheldon Werner, VA2SH / VA6SH on his election as the Radio Amateurs of Canada Director for the Provence of Quebec. Werner has been an amateur radio operator since 1976. He has been involved in many aspects of the hobby including serving as the Vice President for the Montreal Amateur Radio Club.

Werner ran unopposed, eliminating the need for a balloted election. His role as Quebec Director is for the remainder of a two year term which ends December 31, 2013. (VO1PRB)

**

BREAK 3

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: LEAP SECONDS GET A REPRIEVE

The Leap Second is getting a temporary reprieve. This after delegates at an international telecommunications meeting in Geneva failed to reach a consensus on whether or not to delete these sporadic additions from the global time standard system.

As reported last week, attendees to the conference were supposed to decide whether to recommend the elimination of leap seconds. Since no decision was made, the issue has been referred back to a panel of experts for further study. A revised proposal will be introduced no earlier than 2015.

Leap Seconds are time increments which are occasionally added to the world's atomic clocks to keep them synchronized with Earth's rotational cycles. The last leap second was added in 2008. The next one is this year at the end of June.

Also one correction to last weeks report. As pointed out to us in an e-mail from John Rabold KS6M, the Earth doesn't rotate around the sun. Rather it revolves around the sun.

Thank you John for catching that one. It was our bad. (Space & Science)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NASA AND W5KWQ WORKING ON RELEASE OF FIRST MOVIE SHOT IN SPACE

The first science fiction film shot in space could be coming to viewers here on Earth. This after NASA confirms it's almost ready to give approval for the project.

Titled Apogee of Fear, the film was shot by space tourist Richard Garriott, W5KWQ, during his 2008 trip to the International Space Station. Garriott shot the basic footage for the film, using astronauts as his cast. He then added scenes and visual effects after his return to Earth.

The film was privately shown at Dragon*Con last year, but has been in legal limbo since then. This is because it wasn't included in Garriott's deal with NASA. Now the space agency confirms that it is

working with W5KWQ to facilitate the video's release. The complete story is on-line at tinyurl.com/movie-in-space. (The UK Register, Wired, others)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: THE IPAD PASSPORT

A Canadian man traveling by car to Vermont claimes that his iPad helped save the day. This after he realized he left his passport, which is required to cross into the United States, at his home in Quebec.

According to news reports, Martin Reisch said that on December 30th he arrived at Canada's Stanstead crossing and proceeded to the U.S. border post. He then showed the U.S. officer his Canadian driver's license, his Medicaid card and a digital scan of his passport he had on his iPad. At that point says Reisch he was permitted to enter the United States.

But the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency says that it did not happen that way calling Reisch's story false. In a statement the agency said that in this case, the individual had both a driver's license and birth certificate, which the CBP officer used to determine identity and citizenship in order to admit the traveler into the country.

But Reisch isn't backing down from his story. He told the press that he does not even know where his paper birth certificate is. He added that his experience does however make him think about how technology can be used for identification purposes when traveling at some point in the future. (Various published news sources)

**

WORLDBEAT: RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA SEEKS TREASURER

Radio Amateurs of Canada is looking for a Treasurer who is a Chartered Accountant, Certified General Accountant or Certified Management Accountant. Experience with QuickBooks would be an asset. Interested parties should contact Paul Burggraaf by e-mail to vo1prb(at) rac (dot) ca. (RAC)

**

WORLDBEAT: UK SCHOOL TO HOLD D-STAR EVENT

A school in the village of Gresham in the United Kingdom will be holding an amateur radio special event station using the D-STAR digital network for children age 6 to 11 on May 23rd. The callsign will be GB2GVS which stands for Gresham Village School.

Andy Johnston, 2E0AIV is the event coordinator. He says that they have already arranged link-ups with schools in Northern Ireland, the USA and England, but are looking for more countries and schools to

participate. If anyone is interested, they can contact Andy via e-mail at 2e0avi (at) 2e0aiv (dot) co (dot) uk. (Southgate)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING DENMARK'S PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Ham radio is helping Denmark celebrate its turn as President of the European Union. Denmark holds this from January 1st to June 30th. Ro celebrate, the callsign 5P12EU will be activated during this same time period. QSL cards will be available and there is an award scheme for working or just hearing this callsign. For all details on QSLing, the award format and logs, check out www.5p12eu.dk (DX OnLine)

**

DX

In DX, members of the Buddies in the Caribbean will mount a mini-DXpedition to Grenada between February 1st through the 9th. The team specializes in 100 watts or less low power radios and the Buddipole portable antenna systems They will have fixed operations from a cliff-top villa and portable operations from various points on the island. Modes used will be CW, SSB, and the Digital on 160 through 10 meters. Licensing is not yet complete, but each operator is expected to receive their J3/callsign. QSL via Logbook of the World, eQSL, or regular mail to operator's home callsign and include a self addressed stamped envelope if you go the postal route.

JA1XGI will be active from Hawaii as W8XGI/KH6 between January 31st and February 4th just prior to his upcoming trip to Tonga. Operations will probably be on 20 through 6 meters with an emphasis on 30, 17 and 12 meters. He is expected to operate mainly CW, with some SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via JA1XGI, direct or by the Bureau. QSO's will be uploaded to Logbook of the World.

DL7AFS and DJ7ZG will be operational as V21FS and V21ZG, respectively, from the Villa Sundowerns on the island of Antigua beginning March 5th for an unknown stay. Focus of this operation on 160 through meters as propagation conditions allow. Modes noted are RTTY, PSK and SSB. QSL via the DARC German QSL bureau or direct to DL7AFS.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: LOS ANGELES CELEBRATES THE 57TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGALERT DEVELOPED BY THE LATE LLOYD SIGMON, W6LQ

Los Angeles transportation leaders gathered at Caltrans headquarters Monday January 23rd to commemorate the 57th anniversary of what may be Los Angeles' most iconic gift to the rest of the world: the SigAlert. And it was developed by a ham radio operator. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, tells about this legacy gifted to the people of

Southern California by a broadcasting pioneer:

--

It's hard to fathom that it was 57 years ago this week that the late Lloyd Sigmon, W6LQ, developed the SigAlert. At the time Lloyd was a vice president and engineer at Gene Autry's Golden West Broadcasting AM radio station KMPC.

In the pre Internet world of the 1950's KMPC had revolutionized Southern California driving by launching a fleet of fixed wing aircraft and helicopters to report live on traffic conditions during rush hours. But what became known as the "KMPC Air Force" could not fly around the clock.

In off hours Lloyd Sigmon had wanted Los Angeles Police Department officers to simply phone KMPC's news department when freeways or streets were clogged but the department rejected that idea. So W6LQ used his ham radio know how to develop a hardware-based work around that has been a region wide standard for more than half a century.

Today the California Highway Patrol and other police authorities still use the term SigAlert to advise motorists to an unplanned lane closure lasting more than 30 minutes. And over the years SigAlerts have not only aided in traffic reporting but have also been used in disaster alerting.

The first such emergency notification SigAlert took place in 1955 when it urged medical personnel to respond to a train derailment. It reportedly caused a traffic jam when many doctors and nurses showed up to assist at the scene.

W6LQ's SigAlert is also credited with saving the lives of hundreds when the Baldwin Hills Dam collapsed on December 14, 1963. And even today Lloyd Sigmon's basic alerting concept is in use nationwide in the form of the high-tech Emergency Alert System or E-A-S.

During his time in Southern California, Lloyd Sigmon, W6LQ, was very active and well known in the Los Angeles ham radio community. He was also a frequent guest on late-night talk shows, especially that of Ray Briem, N6FFT. There he could be heard discussing both his love of ham radio and, once in a while, a bit of the technology on the development of the SigAlert.

In later year after his retirement from KMPC Lloyd Sigmon moved back to his native Oklahoma. There, W6LQ, became a Silent Key in 2005 at age 90.

I was fortunate to have known Lloyd and to have appeared with him several times on the Ray Briem Show. I can tell you first hand that Lloyd Sigmon, W6LQ, was one truly nice guy.

For the Amateur Radio Newsine, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom here in the City of Angels.

--

You can learn more about both Lloyd Sigmon, W6LQ, and the SigAlert at tinyurl.com/3myftzl. (Various published news reports and ARNewsline(tm) Archive)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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21. Nebraska Hams Featured in the February 2012 QST

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-31 15:28:03 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120131135209.5231020436@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 540
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

In my Section News for January, I mentioned the good work Dar Piatt, W9HCZ, is doing with the Midwest Homebrew and QRP Group. I am proud to recognize that Dar was featured in the latest QST for his participation in the ARRL Teacher's Institute on Wireless Technology. A major part of the text is devoted to his comments about the Institute. You will find the article on page 78 of the February 2012 QST. The Midwest Homebrew and QRP Group's website is: http://www.hbqrp.org.

If you turn to page 62 in the same issue, you will see a review of the HamGadgets PicoKeyer-Plus. This tiny keyer is one of the kits sold by Hamgadgets which is an Omaha company belonging to Dale Botkin, N0XAS. Dale has some great, easy to build and operate products. Please take a look at the review in QST and at Dale's website: http://hamgadgets.com.

Thanks to Dar and Dale for representing the Nebraska ham radio community so well!

73, Art K0AIZ

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
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22. W1AW Webcast Tour

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-01-31 16:00:10 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120131153407.9DC2020341@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 541
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

I received the following from Steve Ewald, WV1X, Supervisor of the Field Organization Team:

On Sunday, February 12th at 5 p.m. Eastern time, ARRL and Al Petrunti of The New Day Group will webcast a LIVE tour of W1AW – the ARRL flagship station. Amateurs around the country (and the world) will be able to watch it at http://www.awecast.tv/channels/arrl/ .

“Hams around the world know of W1AW and thousands have made contacts with this impressive station, but most never get to see it,” said Allen Pitts, W1AGP, who is producing the event. “Thanks to Al Petrunti’s group, we hope that folks enjoy seeing what’s at the other end of the signals.”

You will be there as Petrunti, KA1TCH, local weatherman Geoff Fox, K1GF, and others are given a tour by Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. As in all live broadcasts, you never know just what might happen. We invite you to join us. Petrunti, KA1TCH, also created the video about HR-607 for ARRL.

You can learn more about W1AW at http://www.arrl.org/w1aw and about the New Day Group at http://www.NewDayHD.com .

73,

Steve Ewald, WV1X
Supervisor, Field Organization Team

ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio™

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
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23. The ARRL Letter for February 2, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-03 05:11:40 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120203034559.C2FC326FCEE@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 542
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

February 2, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- + WRC-12: Agenda Item 1.23 Update
- + FCC News: FCC Sets Date for Medical Devices on 70 cm
- + ARRL HQ: Save the Date! Take a Virtual Tour of W1AW on February 12
- + ARRL HQ: Volunteer Tour Guides Make Your Visit to ARRL Headquarters
Pleasant and Informative
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- This Week in Radiosport
- + ARRL Congratulates: Ralph Taggart, WB8DQT , Wins January QST Cover
Plaque Award
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + WRC-12: THE FIRST WEEK

By IARU Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) 2012 World
Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) began January 23 in Geneva,
Switzerland. This is the "big show" for spectrum allocation matters and
a very important meeting if you are an Amateur Radio operator anywhere
in the world. Every four or five years, a WRC takes place; the last one
was in 2007. Approximately 3000 people are attending WRC-12. These are
government officials, telecommunication industry people and others --
like the IARU -- who have an interest in the use of the radio spectrum.
The agenda items discussed during WRC-12 were established at the
previous WRC in 2007. In the past 4.5 years, there have been many
committee meetings within the ITU to try to arrive at solutions that
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will satisfy each of the agenda items. In the case of some of the agenda items, several possible methods to satisfy the agenda item have been identified. It is up to the WRC to select the most appropriate method to satisfy the agenda item, that is, to arrive at a worldwide solution to the issue presented in the agenda item. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/wrc-12-the-first-week>.

==> + WRC-12: AGENDA ITEM 1.23 UPDATE

According to Colin Thomas, G3PSM, CEPT Coordinator for Agenda Item 1.23, WRC-12 delegates are progressing with what he calls a "compromise proposal" for an MF secondary allocation to the Amateur Radio Service. Agenda Item 1.23 calls for WRC-12 delegations to consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services.

"Progress was made with a compromise proposal on Agenda Item 1.23, drafted to take into consideration the views of those for and those against an amateur service allocation around 500 kHz," Thomas explained. "This proposal suggests a 7 kHz segment between 472-479 kHz, very close to the CEPT position of 472-480 kHz <http://www.arrl.org/news/european-proposal-for-amateur-secondary-mf-allocation-clears-important-hurdle>.
Initial indications are that this could be acceptable to many administrations and regional organizations. However, various meetings need to take place to have these formally accepted. In order to tidy up the draft for the next meeting of the sub-working group, a weekend meeting of the drafting group will be held. At the time of writing [Saturday, January 28], the NOC (No Change) advocates steadfastly maintain their positions."

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC SETS DATE FOR MEDICAL DEVICES ON 70 CM

In November 2011, FCC Commissioners unanimously agreed <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-grants-secondary-service-allocation-to-wireless-broadband-medical-micropower-networks>
to allocate spectrum and adopt service and technical rules for the utilization of new implanted medical devices that operate on 413-457 MHz (70 cm). These devices will be used on a secondary basis as part of the Medical Device Radiocommunication (MedRadio) Service in Part 95 of the FCC rules. In the Federal Register for Friday, January 27 <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-01-27/pdf/2012-1540.pdf>, the FCC announced that the effective date for these new rules is Monday, February 27. The new rules expand the existing MedRadio Service rules to permit the use of new wideband medical implant devices that employ neuromuscular microstimulation techniques to restore sensation, mobility, and other functions to paralyzed limbs and organs. These medical devices hold enormous promise to advance the state of medical care, lower health costs, and improve the quality of life for countless Americans. The rules will allow these new types of MedRadio devices to access 24 megahertz of spectrum in the 413-419, 426-432, 438-444, and

451-457 MHz bands on a secondary basis.

==> + ARRL HQ: SAVE THE DATE! TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF W1AW ON FEBRUARY 12

Join W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, on a virtual tour of W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-antenna-farm>, the Amateur Radio station at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. Carcia will lead this tour via a live webcast on Sunday, February 12 at 5 PM EST (2200 UTC). Anyone with an Internet connection will be able to watch the tour here <http://www.awecast.tv/channels/arrl/>.

"We want viewers of this live Internet tour to feel as if they are actually at W1AW," Carcia explained. "If you came to W1AW in person, you would see the same things that we are going to show on the virtual tour: The three operating stations, the W1AW workshop, the transmitter racks that we use to send out our bulletins and use for the code practice transmission, the control console and Old Betsy <http://www.arrl.org/images/view/web_008.jpg>, Hiram Percy Maxim's personal spark gap transmitter."

Al Petrunti, KA1TCH, of the New Day Group <http://www.newdayhd.com/>, will follow Carcia as he leads viewers through the station. ARRL Staff members, including Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, and Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, as well as local television weatherman Geoff Fox, K1GF <http://www.geofffox.com/>, will also be on hand at W1AW during the tour.

"Hams around the world know of W1AW, and thousands have made contacts with this impressive station -- but most hams never get to see it," Pitts said. "Thanks to Al Petrunti's group, we hope that folks enjoy seeing what's at the other end of the signals. As in all live broadcasts, you never know just what might happen. We invite you to join us." Pitts is producing the live web tour.

This is the second video that the New Day Group has made for the ARRL. In 2011, they created the HR 607 video <http://www.arrl.org/hr-607> that educated radio amateurs of a bill in Congress that addressed certain spectrum management issues, including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network using current Amateur Radio spectrum.

==> + ARRL HQ: VOLUNTEER TOUR GUIDES MAKE YOUR VISIT TO ARRL HEADQUARTERS PLEASANT AND INFORMATIVE

When you visit ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, the first smiling face you're likely to see is a tour guide. ARRL's Tour Guide program now includes 19 volunteers who donate thousands of hours of their free time per year, giving tours to hundreds of visitors. ARRL's tour guides are an integral part of the ARRL. When not giving tours, they are busy accomplishing tasks in various HQ departments -- sorting QSL cards, working on special projects in the lab, updating the

periodicals archive, and much, much more. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/volunteer-tour-guides-make-your-visit-to-arrl-hq-pl
easant-and-informative>.

==> +ARRL FIELD DAY: 2012 FIELD DAY PACKET NOW AVAILABLE

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL
Field Day, June 23-24, 2012! ARRL's flagship operating event -- always
held the fourth full weekend in June -- brings together new and
experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. Field Day packets are
now available for download <http://www.arrl.org/fieldday> and include
the complete rules, as well as other reference items such as forms,
ARRL Section abbreviation list, entry submission instructions, a
Frequently Asked Questions section, guidelines for getting bonus
points, instructions for GOTA stations and a kit to publicize your
event with the local press. A brief one-page flyer with basic "What is
Field Day" information has also been included in this year's Field Day
packet. Amateur Radio clubs and individuals are encouraged to reproduce
this flyer as a handout for information tables.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that
the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which
covers the month of January -- takes a look the 2012 World
Radiocommunication Conference, the ARRL Board of Directors' 2012 Annual
Meeting, new ARRL books, new antennas at the W1AW antenna farm, FCC
decisions affecting Amateur Radio, reports from the Official Observer
Desk and more. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-42>.

==> + ON THE AIR: 4U1ITU NOW 4U1WRC DURING WRC-12

4U1ITU <http://life.itu.ch/radioclub/> -- the Amateur Radio station
at the ITU -- will be signing as 4U1WRC during the 2012 World
Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12), through February 17. The
station will revert to 4U1ITU just in time for the ARRL International
DX CW Contest <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>, scheduled for February
18-19. According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ,
who is attending WRC-12 as the IARU International Secretariat, the
station is in really good shape, with two operating positions capable
of going on any two bands at the same time. "A number of delegates are
active amateurs, so the station should be quite active for the next
several weeks," he said. Amateurs who work 4U1WRC between January
23-February 17, 2012 can receive a special QSL card via the HB9 Bureau
or by QSLing direct to IARC, PO Box 6, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Strolling slowly toward the Sun
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jYix2LttoB0>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Over
the past reporting week -- January 26-February 1 -- the average daily
sunspot number declined nearly 37 points to 62, while the average daily

solar flux was off nearly 21 points to 120.4. The predicted solar flux for the near term is 120 on February 2-5, 110 on February 6-9, 150 on February 10, 155 on February 11-13, 150 on February 14-19, and then 145 on February 20-23. The forecast in mid-January for flux levels at 165 on February 17-21 are but a distant memory. Shortly after the last bulletin was released on Friday, January 27, a powerful X-class solar flare was released at 1837 UTC, but it was not Earth-directed. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, February 3. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Sugarloaf's Green Eyed Lady <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_Eyed_Lady>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- February 3 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 4 -- Minnesota QSO Party; FYBO Winter QRP Sprint; AGCW Straight Key Party
- February 4-5 -- Vermont QSO Party; Delaware QSO Party; British Columbia QSO Party; Mexico RTTY International Contest; 10-10 International Winter Contest (SSB); YL-ISSB QSO Party (CW); Black Sea Cup International; EPC WW DX Contest
- February 5 -- North American Sprint (CW)

Next week:

- February 10 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 11 -- FISTS Winter Sprint
- February 11-12 -- Louisiana QSO Party; New Hampshire QSO Party; CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest
- February 12 -- North American Sprint (SSB); SKCC Weekend Sprint
- February 12-13 -- Classic Exchange (Phone)
- February 13-17 -- ARRL School Club Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>
- February 14-15 -- PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint (local time)
- February 15 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint; AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> + ARRL CONGRATULATES: RALPH TAGGART, WB8DQT , WINS JANUARY QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for January is Ralph
Taggart, WB8DQT , for his article "Vintage Low Power Radios. "
Congratulations Ralph! The QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the
author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by
a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll Web page
<http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll> . Cast a ballot for your
favorite article in the February issue today.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- February 4 -- ARRL Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-state-convention-frostfest-2012>,
Richmond, Virginia; ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-1>,
Ladson, South Carolina
- February 10-12 -- ARRL Northern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northern-florida-section-convention-orlando-ham
cation-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 17-18 -- ARRL Southwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southwestern-division-convention-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- February 18 -- ARRL Arkansas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-section-convention-1>, Hoxie,
Arkansas
- February 25 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/vermont-state-convention-ham-con-2>,
South Burlington, Vermont
- March 3 -- ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/santa-clara-valley-section-convention-radiofest
>,
Del Rey Oaks, California; ARRL South Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-
hamfest-2>,
Rosenberg, Texas
- March 3-4 -- ARRL Alabama Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-section-convention-birminghamfest-1>,
Birmingham, Alabama
- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana
-hamfest>,
Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest
-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-t
m>,
Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest
>,

Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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Parties.

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24. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1799 - February 3 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-03 10:00:14 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120203100004.50C6F33C93@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 543
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1799 - February 3 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1799 with a release date of February 3rd, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Amateur radio is still live and well at WRC 2012; an Arizona ham files a petition with the FCC to expand the scope of PRB-1; medical implant devices coming to 70 centimeters on February 27th and meet a young ham who not only flies high altitude balloons but makes amazing videos with the pictures that they capture. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1799 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: WRC-2012 STILL CONSIDERING NEW HAM RADIO ALLOCATION NEAR 500KHZ

Ham radio is very much alive as a discussion topic at the 2012 World Radiocommunications Conference now taking place in Geneva Switzerland. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, has the latest:

--

Rod Stafford, W6ROD, secretary for the International Amateur Radio Union's Region 2, says from his vantage point, it appears that there are several member countries that are in favor of granting the amateur radio service an allocation somewhere in the 415 to 526.5 kHz range.

It had been proposed to carve out a 15 kHz section for amateur use.

However, Stafford says those engaged in the discussions say there is a need to protect existing services.

And, Stafford says in a report on the WRC proceedings so far that there appear to be a couple of options:

First, a secondary allocation of up to 15 kHz to the amateur radio service on a worldwide basis between 472 kHz and 487 kHz.

Second, two non-contiguous worldwide secondary allocations to the amateur radio service between 461 and 469 kHz and 471 to 478 kHz, totalling 15 kHz.

Third, a proposal for a worldwide secondary allocation of 8 KHz from 472 to 480 kHz.

And, finally, no change or allocation.

He says some countries are concerned that non-direction beacons that operate in the spectrum could be subject to possible interference from any new allocations to amateur radio. Stafford's assessment is that it's still early in the process to determine whether amateur operators will succeed in getting the spectrum allocation.

He says there's one other item of concern to amateur radio operators and the IARU being discussed at the conference.

That's a bid for oceanographic radar applications in the 3 to 50 MHz range.

Stafford says the IARU's position is the oceanographic radar applications are incompatible with the amateur and amateur satellite services in the range 3 to 50 MHz and should not be allocated in bands already allocated to the amateur and amateur satellite service, including 5.250 to 5.450 MHz.

WRC-12 wraps up on Feb. 17 and Stafford promises he'll keep the amateur community apprised of developments as they occur.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

As an aside, the International Amateur Radio Club in Geneva is on the air using the special call 4U1WRC during the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference. It's operating all modes on 160 through 6 meters until the close of the conference on February 17th. If you work this special commemorative station please QSL via 4U1ITU.

(WRC 2012)

**

BREAKING DX NEWS: A GLOOMY FUTURE FOR DXPEDITIONS TO JAN MAYEN ISLAND

Jan Mayen Island could soon head to the top of the DX worlds most wanted this. This as the result of a recent decision by the Norwegian government that declared most of Jan Mayen a Nature Reserve and banned landings and camping on most of the island. This means that tour operators can no longer visit since the main landing area is part of the Reserve.

The only places left on the island which could be used as landing and camp sites are in the very extreme southern part of Jan Mayen which suffers from extreme weather conditions. Amateur radio operations may still be possible from the two locations but both are difficult to get to due to stormy seas and other severe weather conditions. As such it now appears that the recent JX5O operation was probably the last major DXpedition to Jan Mayen for many years to come.

There is the chance that hams who might be assigned as staff members at the islands Olonkin base will be able to activate Jan Mayen. Late word is that LA9JKA, is to be there beginning March 22nd and is expected to stay until March 2013 but what plans he has to operate from the island at this point are unknown. (Southgate)

**

RADIO LAW: MEDICAL IMPLANT DEVICES COMING TO 70CM ON FEB. 27

Monday, February 27th is the date when medical monitoring and control devices previously approved by the FCC could start showing up in various segments of the 70 centimeter band. Amateur Radio Newsline welcomes Chris Szpila who has this report:

--

As reported here on Newsline, last November the FCC voted to allocate spectrum for use by new implanted medical devices that operate on 413 to 457 MHz range. These devices which range from short range monitors to more advanced diagnostic and treatment gear will be used on a secondary basis as part of the Part 95 Medical Device Radiocommunication Service. The rules established by the FCC allow access 24 megahertz of spectrum on a secondary basis in the 413 to 419, 426 to 432, 438 to 444, and 451 to 457 Megahertz bands.

Amateur radio should hear little in the way of interference from any of these devices to signal reception. What's not known is the effect of nearby high power transmitters from various services across the spectrum to the operation of these devices or the ability of any remote transceiver system to hear their telemetry and send instructions back to these implanted units. Most researchers believe this to be minimal to none at all.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Chris Szpila, in Los Angeles.

--

The most important aspect of these devices will be their benefit to mankind by restoring mobility and other functions to paralyzed limbs for those who cannot now use them now. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: ARIZONA HAM FILES FOR RULE MAKING TO EXTEND PRB1 TO OVERIDE CCR RESTRICTIONS

A petition to the FCC to extend PRB-1 exemptions to cover outdoor antennas in communities with Condition, Covenant and Restrictions has been filed with the FCC by Arizona resident Leonard J. Umina, W7CCE.

Umina's petition is based on an Equal Rights claim. He says that to establish the assertion it is necessary to ascertain that certain classes of amateurs are and / or were in identical situations with regard to those who received relief from PRB-1 but were not equally

treated by the regulation.

Umina states that what he terms as the "move elsewhere" philosophy of PRB-1 fails to address classes of amateurs who were born into restrictive areas and those who had no part in selecting where they would reside.

Umina notes that because over 66% of Americans now rent and that that Homeowners Association market penetration has skyrocked. This at the same time that the urban population has increased to 75%. As such, Umina suggests that it is finally time for the FCC to act by extending PRB-1 in its present form to negate private contracts better known as CC&R's.

Umina asks that special exemptions be applied to wire antennas so that simple rules exist in allowing for easier participation by youth and those who otherwise might be confused by complex regulation and court decisions. Umina also asks that Shortwave Listener and the commercial shortwave market be considered.

Most important, Umina asks that no significant changes be made which would compromise existing District Court decisions which upheld PRB-1 application. As we go to air the FCC has not yet assigned a rule making designation to W7CCE's petition filing. (QRZ.com)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: RS-39 NOW ON-ORBIT: RECEPTION REPORTS WANTED

The Chibis-M microsatellite, also known as RS-39, was placed on-orbit from a Russian Progress M cargo spacecraft on Tuesday January 24th. The satellite is designed to study atmospheric phenomena such as Terrestrial Gamma Ray Flashes associated with lightning.

RS-39 also carries CW beacons on 435.215 and 435.315 MHz. Hams hearing these signals are being asked to submit reception reports via e-mail to the Space Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences at amateur-rs39 (at) chibis (dot) cosmos (dot) ru. Each report will be acknowledged with a special QSL card.

We will have more ham radio space related news later on in this week's Amateur Radio Newsline report. (Southgate)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Sequoia Amateur Radio Group repeater serving Lake Isabella, California.

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ARRL TO PRESENT LIVE WEB TOUR OF W1AW ON FEBRUARY 12

Never seen the ARRL Headquarters station W1AW? Well you can do so vicariously through a webcast. Amateur Radio Newslines Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

The ARRL and Al Petrunti, KA1TCH, of The New Day Group have teamed up to present the first ever on-line tour of the League's flagship station W1AW. The live webcast takes place on February 12th beginning at 5 p.m. Eastern time.

According to ARRL Public Relations and Media Coordinator Allen Pitts, W1AGP, many hams around the world know of W1AW. Thousands have made contacts with this impressive station, but few ever get to observe it in person.

Pitts who is producing the event says that thanks to Petrunti's media streaming group, people world-wide should enjoy seeing what's at the other end of the signals from W1AW.

Pitts notes that through the webcast viewers will be there as Petrunti, along with local weatherman Geoff Fox, K1GF, and others are given a tour of W1AW by Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. W1AGP says that as in all live broadcasts, you never know what might happen.

Again, you can watch the webcast live on Sunday, February 12th beginning at 5 p.m. Eastern at www.awecast.tv/channels/arrl. W1AGP says that he hopes you enjoy the tour.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

--

Al Petrunti, KA1TCH, is no stranger to ham radio video projects. He was the creative force behind the ARRL video about HR-607. More about the New Day Group at www.NewDayHD.com. (ARRL)

**

RADIO LAW: NEW TOWER RULES FOR THE BIRDS

The FCC's new rules affecting tower sitting for certain tall towers, meant to protect migratory birds, have been published in the Federal Register. However, they have not yet become effective.

Some aspects of the new rules adopted in December need approval by the Office of Management and Budget. The FCC will publish a subsequent notice in the Federal Register announcing the effective date.

To recap, towers above 450 feet tall will face more analysis. Owners will need to do an environmental assessment and allow the public time to comment on where a new tower would be placed before construction accomplishing this through methods such as a newspaper notice or local

zoning public notice process. An environmental notice will also be required if an applicant changes the lighting of an existing tower to a less preferred style.

Very few if any ham radio towers are 450 feet or higher and are not affected by the new rules. However they do make for some very interesting reading. You can see these new bird safety tower rules at tinyurl.com/tower-birds-two. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: ANOTHER FLORIDA UNLICENSED BROADCAST FINE AFFIRMED

The FCC has affirmed a $10,000 fine to Willis Cernogg, Jr. of Miami, Florida. This for willful and repeated violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act by operation of an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 90.7 MHz.

Back on October 25th, 2011, the Enforcement Bureau's Miami Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture in the amount of $10,000 to Cernogg. The FCC says that Cernogg never filed a response to the N-A-L. So, based on the information before it, the FCC has now affirmed the forfeiture.

As is normal procedure, Cernogg was given the customary 30 days from the January 25th date the order was released to pay the fine or file an appeal. If he fails to do either, the FCC will likely turn the matter over to the Department of Justice for collection. (FCC)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: HAMS TEAM WITH CRIME STOPPERS IN MISSOURI

Members of the Barry-Lawrence Chapter of Crime Stoppers in Cassville, Missouri are joining forces with ham radio operators. This, to help keep an eye out for the thieves who have been stealing and burning vehicles in two counties.

Katherine Parker, KD0ETX, is the Assistant District Emergency Coordinator for both Barry and Lawrence counties. She says that general warnings could be issued to operators across the region to be aware of the situation and report suspicious activities occurring in their neighborhoods.

During their January meeting, the Crime Stoppers board members also approved offering a reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for the hundreds of thousands of dollars in property damage resulting from these recent crime sprees. Chairman John Strong also recommended organizing citizen patrols for parts of both counties, with suspicious activity reported back to local law enforcement agencies. (Cassville Democrat)

**

ON LINE NEWS: QRZ.COM ADDS GRIDMAPPER SERVICE

Another service has been added to QRZ.com. Called the Gridmapper this feature allows you to see the grid square on a Google map of the station you are looking up. A six character square is outlined. This is very handy for VHF and UHF enthusiasts who try to find and activate rare locations in the Maidenhead Grid Square location system. (K8YSE)

**

HAM MARKETPLACE: UK INNOVANTENNAS COME TO NORTH AMERICA

InnovAntennas have come to North America. According to Bill Hein, AA7XT, the full line of high performance British built High Frequency, VHF and UHF amateur radio antennas from InnovAntennas are now available to customers across the United States at R&L Electronics in Hamilton, Ohio.

By way of background, InnovAntennas was launched in 2011 by Justin Johnson, G0KSC. This after his hobby of designing antennas for his personal use led to a flood of make one for me requests from amateur radio operators who recognized that Johnson's designs outperformed they could buy in any U-K store.

Today, InnovAntennas is building antennas at a former boat factory in Canvey Island, England and selling its products directly via InnovAntennas.com and via a network of dealers in Europe, Australia, and now, the United States. Designs include the Loop Fed Array and Opposing Phase - Driven Element System Yagis both of which have become very popular in the world of Moonbounce or E-M-E operations.

For more information on the introduction of InnovAntennas to the United States ham radio marketplace, you can e-mail AA7XT to bill (at) innovantennas (dot) com. You can also check the R and L website at www.RandL.com. (AA7XT)

**

HAM MARKETPLACE: YAESU HINTING IT WILL BRING OUT C4FM DITIAL VOICE GEAR FOR AMATEUR RADIO

Yaesu is hinting that they will be coming out with new digital amateur radios in 2012.

A new pamphlet discussing amateur digital radios shows the new Vertex Standard APCO P-25 commercial radios, as well as new amateur radios based on the C4FM FDMA digital audio system commonly known as MotoTrobo.

The pamphlet makes it appear that Yaesu will be offering amateur gear based on the MotoTrobo digital standard sometime this. The new vertex radios look identical to their Motorola counterparts.

Our guess is that any launch of such a project would likely take place at the Dayton Hamvention in mid-May. (Adapted from Yaesu Press

Release)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: AARA TO HOLD ITS 52ND HAMFEST IN RAYNE LOUISIANA MARCH 9-10

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association will hold its 52nd annual hamfest at the Civic Center in Rayne, Louisiana. The dates are March 9 and 10 and the event will feature ARRL Education and Technology Program Coordinator Mark Spencer WA8SME as its special guest speaker. For entertainment Norm Helms K5SAC will be heading up the Texas Ham Playboys band.

This hamfest has been designated as the 2012 ARRL Louisiana State Convention and planners say that they are looking forward to seeing many of you there. More information about this fun event is on-line at www.w5ddl.org/hamfest. (KN5GRK)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: DX UNIVERSITY 2012 APRIL 20TH IN VISALIA CA.

The 2012 DX University will take place on the Friday April 20th in conjunction with the International DX Convention in Visalia, California. Among this years lecturers are Bob Allphin, K4UEE; Bernie Mc Clenny, W3UR; Rusty Epps, W6OAT; Bob Locher, W9KNI, and a number of other world famous DX'ers many of whom are inductees of the CQ DX Hall of Fame. Together they will teach many of the operating techniques for working DX. You will also get the DXpeditioner's view of how DXers should operate to get into the log. Registration is available on line at www.dxuniversity.com. For further information please contact Wayne Mills by e-mail to N7NG (at) arrl (dot) net or Roger Western, at G3SXW (at) btinternet (dot) com. (DX University)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO TECHNOLOGY: ROS JOINS US EXPERIMENTAL SPREAD SPECTRUM TEST STA

R-O-S is among a number of modes raking part in spread spectrum experiments in the USA. The R-O-S data mode group reports that the FCC has issued a Special Temporary Authority to a United States based experimental group for the purpose of investigating Spread Spectrum

modes within the USA.

According to the press release from Graham Brown, G0NBD, Phil Williams, KA1GMN, of Euless, Texas has been issued the first license with the call WF9XJD. Williams was scheduled to become active on February 1st.

Brown says that anyone wishing to apply for a STA or be one of the designated receiving stations, should contact Williams directly at ka1gmn (at) gmail.com for details of the application process. Reports and QSO's are of course, most welcome from all.

The licenses are issued on a 6 month rolling basis and can also be applied directly from the FCC at tinyurl.com/fccsta. (G0NBD, Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SUMBANDILLASAT FAILS ON-ORBIT

South Africa's Defence Web reports that the nations second satellite, SumbandilaSat also known as SO-67 is no longer fully operational.

Rob Olivier is the head of Business Development at SunSpace. He told Defence Web that although contact can still be made with the satellite, it cannot capture images. As such it is no longer fulfilling its main purpose.

Oliver added that chances of repairing the satellite onorbit are virtually none. As such SunSpace has moved on to other projects.

SumbandilaSat was damaged during a solar storm in the June of 2011. The power supply to its onboard computer stopped working and the satellite stopped sending back images.

In addition to its primary mission SumbandilaSat also carried an radio payload as well. This consisted of a voice beacon, a store and forward parrot repeater and VHF to UHF FM repeater. (Defence Web)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: WINNERS OF ARISSAT-1 CHICKEN LITTLE CONTEST ANNOUNCED

AMSAT and ARISS announced the winners of its ARISSat One Chicken Little Contest to predict when the hand-deployed bird would fall from the sky. The contest received 77 entries from 17 different countries, from all continents except Antarctica.

In the Kindergarten through grade 8 grade sector the winner was Cora Haefner, KK4ECV, of Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. In grades 9 through 12 it was the Cameron School in Lancashire, in the United Kingdom. The Adult category winner was Thomas Frey, HB9SKA, of Birr, Switzerland.

Based on comments sent along with the submissions, a wide variety of techniques were used. These ranged from detailed calculations, to comparisons with past satellites, to guesses based on birthdays. In

the end, both KK4ECV and HB9SKA were within 15 hours of the best data from Space Track. It had reported that the remnants of ARISSat One splashed down in the South Atlantic approximately 07:00 UTC on January 4th.

All three winners have been sent a Chicken Little Certificate, and the congratulations of the ARISSat One team. The contest sponsors say that they also want to tank all those who entered, especially educators who worked with students on this project. (AMSAT / ARISS)

**

ON THE AIR: BCARA TO COMMEMORATE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY ON THE AIR

On the air, word that Ohio's Butler County Amateur Radio Association will be sponsoring special event station W8WRK from February 18th to the 26th. This to commemorate a historic Washington's Birthday amateur radio message relay which was originally accomplished on February 22, 1916 by members of the American Radio Relay League. The special event will be conducted from the clubs home station which is located in the original building of Special Land Station 8ZU. For operating times, frequencies and QSL information please visit tinyurl.com/6og8epf on the World Wide Web. (KD8RLA)

**

DX

In DX, W1NN and JA1LZR will be operational as NH0J and NH0Z, respectively, from Tinian, in the Northern Marianas, until February 4th. Their activity is focused on the lower bands using an Elecraft K3 transceiver an amplifier and a quarter wave verticals. QSL this one as directed on the air.

EA5BYP and EA5KM will once again be active from Annobon Island and Bioko Islands. The pair plan to arrive in Equatorial Guinea by the middle of February and then travel first to Bioko using the callsign 3C6A and then on to Annobon as 3C0E. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters. Exact dates of this operation should be announced shortly. QSL both callsigns via EA5BYP.

W6HGF, will be on the air stroke FP from Miquelon Island between February 10th through the 20th. Activity will be on 160 through 10 meters but focused on the Digital modes, mostly RTTY. QSL via Logbook of the World or to W6HGF, direct or via the bureau.

NP4Z will be active as EE8Z from the Los Chachos Contest Club in the Canary Islands. This, during the CQ World Wide SSB Contest from March 24th to the 25th. QSL via EA8AY.

Lastly, ZS4U will be operational portable 9Q6 from the Republic of the Congo between March 10th and April 5th. Activity will be limited, probably mainly on the weekends and some days during the week. Listen out for him between 1200 and 1600 UTC on 40 through 6 meters using CW,

SSB and PSK31. QSL via his home callsign.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: HACK THE TUBE - A TRIP TO THE EDGE OF SPACE BY TEEN HAM ERIN KING, AK4JG

And finally this week, Erin King, AK4JG, of Columbia, Georgia, may only be a teenager but she has already left a very positive imprint in our world of amateur radio. Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has the details on Erin's magic carpet ride to the edge of space and the video that is taking the ham radio community by storm:

--

Erin King, AK4JG has posted a video of her recent amateur radio high altitude balloon mission for the 'Hack the Tubes' project. This, for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's class of 2016's early admissions program. And when you see it you will find it hard to believe that both the flight and the video are the work of a very, very talented teen.

According to AK4JG, she decided to send her Tube to the edge of space by turning it into an amateur radio high-altitude ballooning project. To accomplish this, Erin used two GPS and APRS-equipped transmitters for payload tracking. One of these signed the call AK4JG-11 and the other beaconed her fathers call sign of K4ETY-11. Each one sent out position packets from the Tube so Erin could follow it on the ground.

Also on board the tube-shaped payload was an Earth viewing GoPro Hero camera shooting high definition video. And capture some breathtaking video of the entire flight it did.

Erin's payload was carried aloft by a Helium filled 800 gram weather balloon. Takeoff took place on January 16th at around 1 P.M. Eastern time from Lumpkin, GA. The entire flight from launch to landing lasted about 2 hours. That is all compacted to 8 &#65533; minutes during which Erin's video takes you from initial payload assembly of the trackers to the edge of space at over 90,000 feet and to recovery of the payload from where it landed in a pine tree.

The video is set to the music of "Circuit" by Sonic Adventure Project. There is no narration. Instead Erin and her very professional video editing skill lets the pictures tell the entire story. You can see it for yourself by taking your web browser to tinyurl.com/AK4JG-balloon video.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

Again, you will find Erin's video on-line at tinyurl.com/AK4JG-balloon-video. Go take a look. You will be glad that you did.

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350.

Before we go, a note to those listeners who have reported hearing Amateur Radio Newsline played in what might best be called unexpected places and asking why we are doing it. The answer is that we are not. Amateur Radio Newsline only produces a newscast and distributes it via the Internet and automated telephones. We have no transmitting equipment and we broadcast nothing. Since our inception as the Westlink Radio Network back in 1976 right on to today as the Amateur Radio Newsline, we have been and continue to be a ham radio news program supplier and nothing more.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, in sunny Vero Beach, Florida, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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25. School Club Roundup February 13-17 and other news

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-03 17:25:40 UTC
From: ARRL Education Services <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120203165936.C9DBC25B96@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 544
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

Greetings!

Just a few notes to remind you that the next School Club Roundup is approaching February 13-17. You'll find all the information you need about this contest on our website at www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup-scr, including some valuable advice for teachers who are getting students organized to participate for the first time.

You might also want to check out a new flyer ARRL has just released telling kids about "22 Things You Can Do With Amateur Radio." Check it out in our Forms & Media Warehouse at: www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-Youth-flyer-pack-of-25/

The schedule for 2012 Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology seminars has been announced. Go to www.arrl.org/teachers-institute-on-wireless-technology for details and to download an application. Currently, we do not have confirmation on funding for the proposed session of TI-2 on Space on the Classroom. Check the website in a few weeks for an update on status.

73,

Debra

Debra Johnson, K1DMJ

Education Services Manager

ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio(r)

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(860) 594-0296

Fax: (860) 594-0259

djohnson@arrl.org <mailto:djohnson@arrl.org>

26. FCC Daily Digest 02/06/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-06 16:44:13 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-510166-2012.02.06-10.59.54--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 545
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 24 February 06
, 2012

[...]

Report No: 27668 Released: 02/06/2012. BROADCAST APPLICATIONS. MB http:
//hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-312254A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-312254A2.txt

[...]

Report No: AUC-73 (Auction 73) Released: 02/03/2012. WIRELESS TELECOMMUNI
CATIONS BUREAU GRANTS 700 MHZ BAND LICENSES. (DA No. 12-134). WTB . Conta
ct: Kathy Harris at (202) 418-0609 http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/a
ttachmatch/DA-12-134A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-134A1.txt

[...]

27. Re: FCC Daily Digest 02/06/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-06 19:44:10 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <8q60j712ln0g9m1du6653q0spokt6qc01e@4ax.com>
Source record: 546

On Mon, 6 Feb 2012 11:44:13 EST, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:

>
>(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)
>
>
>Daily Digest
>
>Vol. 31 No. 24 February 06
>, 2012
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> [...]
>
>Report No: 27668 Released: 02/06/2012. BROADCAST APPLICATIONS. MB http:
>//hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-312254A1.pdf
>http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-312254A2.txt
>

In this file, I found:

>LOW POWER FM APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL ACCEPTED FOR FILING
>--
>
>MS BRL-20120201AHI WQRZ-LP 126435 HANCOCK COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC. Renewal of
License.
> 103.5 MHZ BAY SAINT LOUIS, MS

A ham radio club operating an FM radio station!
Just before Hurricane Katrina, they moved this FM station to the
county Emergency Operations Center, so as to keep broadcasting vital
news.

More info:

http://www.wqrz.org/mambo/

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WQRZ-LP

Food for thought.

Dick Grady, AC7EL

To respond to me privately, email to:
<My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

28. What's up with K1MAN

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-07 02:16:46 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <59e4827b-7046-4fe7-85d0-669cb22a1372@d15g2000yqg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 547

I was just checking up on this topic and I we just had a major development.

As you may be aware, there are two fronts going with K1MAN. First there is the issue with the renewal application which was set aside for review. This hearing was put on hold pending the outcome of the second issue. The second is the court case where the FCC is trying to collect 17,000 in fines.

A few weeks ago, the judge in the first case issued a summary judgement for 10,000 of the 17,000 fine and held 7,000 in over for trial. (The judge had previously dismissed K1MAN's counter claim.) The government asked that the judge just give them $10,000 and call the rest done. As of last week the judge did just that, ordering K1MAN to pay $10,000 in fines. I'm sure an appeal will be attempted, but the judgment is final. This means that unless the appeals court is somehow willing to consider K1MAN's legal ramblings, he owes $10,000 and the FCC has a court order to prove it.

This should free up the process for the renewal hearing before the administrative law judge in fairly short order. Once this hearing gets scheduled, it's likely to be a pretty open and shut case given the FCC has multiple warning notices, a NAL and a court imposed fine as evidence. I'm guessing the FCC will win this hearing and the renewal will be finally denied.

We are one step closer.... It looks like we are closer to the end than the beginning. Unless the appeal court holds things up, or K1MAN can somehow gum up the works with the administrative hearing, we should be done with this by the end of the year, maybe even within 6 months?

Man I hope so.

29. Re: What's up with K1MAN

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-07 03:24:10 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <jgq2na$gp6$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 548

On 2/6/2012 9:16 PM, KC4UAI wrote:
>
> I was just checking up on this topic and I we just had a major
> development.

[snip]

> We are one step closer.... It looks like we are closer to the end
> than the beginning. Unless the appeal court holds things up, or K1MAN
> can somehow gum up the works with the administrative hearing, we
> should be done with this by the end of the year, maybe even within 6
> months?

"The mills of the Gods grind exceedingly slow, but they grind
exceedingly fine. "

Let's give the legal process time to play out, and in the meantime,
let's remember that we've all done things we regretted afterwards. No
matter how much discomfort K1MAN has caused to a few ham radio
operators, in the grand scheme of things, it's not going to change history.

"Everyone's a little queer except for me and thee....and sometimes I
wonder about thee."

W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

30. FCC Daily Digest 02/07/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-07 17:49:15 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-510392-2012.02.07-12.04.09--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 549
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 25 February 07
, 2012

[...]

APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY POOL (CONVENTIONAL) LICENSES FOR MOBILE USE OF RECONROBOTICS VIDEO AND AUDIO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS. Granted, subject to certain limitations, applications for authorization filed by the public safety agencies listed in the Appendix to deploy and operate the surveillance robot known as the "Recon Scout" for public safety purposes. Action by: Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. Adopted: 02/06/2012 by ORDER. (DA No. 12-123). PSHSB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-123A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-123A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-123A1.txt

[...]

31. Nebraska State Convention: about a month away!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-08 23:59:48 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120208134020.36FFA2036B@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 550
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is a reminder that the ARRL Nebraska State Convention will take
place on Saturday, March 17, 2012. The event starts at 8:30 am and
will run through 3 pm.

The Lincoln Amateur Radio Club has worked hard to make this a great
one. From an EOSS balloon launch through visiting with ARRL's Chief
Operating Officer, Harold Kramer, WJ1B, there will be plenty to do.
And when you're not in a forum or watching a launch, you can visit the
flea market to pick up a needed treasure.

This year, you can get a head-start on the registration process by
using a credit card or PayPal to prepay.

For more information and all the details, please visit
http://lincolnhamfest.org .

I'll be there. I hope you will join me.

73, Art K0AIZ

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
---

32. I'm going to introduce a new mode

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-09 17:27:44 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <jh0vma$j6o$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 451

I'm going to introduce a new mode of voice transmission. It is more efficient than the current Single Side Band that's in common use, and offers advantages over SSB that will revolutionize Amateur Radio.

The new mode will be based on digital signal processing techniques, and will be called "Bill's Better Side Band", or BBSB. Each signal will occupy 2 KHz of bandwidth, which is almost twice as efficient as the outmoded and inefficient SSB mode which BBSB will replace.

Since BBSB depends on digital signal processing to achieve this gain in spectrum efficiency, hams who choose to use the new mode will be required to obtain the following equipment:

1. Linux-based PC with two or more core processors, running at at least 2.8 GHz, with at least 2GB of RAM. (Windows-based PC's and Apple Corp. products are not suitable).

2. PCI add-on card for the computer, incorporating the proprietary BBSB processing technology. An external, USB connected processor will also be available for a small additional fee.

The revolutionary nature of BBSB comes from the fact that no other radio equipment is required to enjoy BBSB's benefits and efficiency (stations in remote areas might require BBSB-Ultra equipment, available for a small additional charge). The old, outdated, and over-sized dedicated units formerly used to communicate using SSB will soon be relegated to "fourth-world" use, although it's possible that small bands of die-hard luddites will continue to use the "SSB" mode during the "denial" and "anger" phases of their conversion to my new reality.

In order to expedite the re-education and assimilation of Amateur Radio operators into compliance with my plan to introduce BBSB throughout Ham radio, I'm now accepting applications for voluntary, unpaid positions in the Cadet Corps of the Spectrum Pacification And Conversion Enforcement teams. The cadets will be given discounts on BBSB equipment in return for performing services that will benefit the Amateur Community, while providing motivation to late-adopter hams to speed their transition to BBSB.

Senior and Junior SPACE Cadets will perform the following duties, plus other tasks which BBSB-insiders will not discuss in public (wink, nudge):

1. Start conversations in exactly 2.001 KHz away from the fre-
quencies being used for old, unproductive modes such as SSB.

2. Respond to all complaints or requests for frequency changes by demanding that all outmoded and old-fashioned SSB equipment be

replaced by BBSB technology. Suitable phrase books, taunts, self-serving logic, and non sequiturs will be provided to facilitate the task.

3. Attend public gatherings of Ham operators in order to deride the appearance, clothing styles, age, and patriotism of any hams who refuse to sign a BBSB pledge. Cadets will also be expected to make comments such as "Are you collecting for a museum?" during their visits, whenever they see SSB units on display.

In return for their service to the SPACE teams, Cadets who achieve Senior status will be allowed to apply for authority to join myself and other BBSB executives at regular meetings, to review the goals of the BBSB Assimilation Matrix and suggest ways to speed BBSB adoption and advancement. (Cadets are cautioned that those participating in AM networks often express their thoughts by using multisyllabic words and even compound sentences when appropriate).

Yours for a brighter BBSB future,

Bill, W1AC

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--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

33. The ARRL Letter for February 9, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-09 21:45:54 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120209202754.B22B82440F@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 452
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

February 9, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
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+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + FCC NEWS: NEW RULES FOR 5 MHZ (60 METERS) TO GO INTO EFFECT MARCH
5

On November 18, the FCC released a Report and Order, defining new
rules for the 60 meter (5 MHz) band. These rules are in response to a
Petition for Rulemaking filed by the ARRL more than five years ago and
a June 2010 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. In the February 3 edition of
the Federal Register, the FCC announced that these new rules will go
into effect on March 5, 2012. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/new-rules-for-5-mhz-60-meters-to-go-into-effect-mar
```

ch-5>.

==> + WRC-12: AGENDA ITEM 1.23 PASSES COMMITTEE, MOVES TO PLENARY

On the afternoon of February 7, Committee 4 of the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) approved Option 1 to satisfy Agenda Item 1.23, with minor editorial amendments to the text received from Working Group 4C. Option 1 calls for a worldwide secondary allocation to the Amateur Service at 472-479 kHz, with a power limit of 1 W EIRP, with a provision for administrations to permit up to 5 W EIRP for stations located more than 800 km from certain countries that wish to protect their aeronautical radionavigation service (non-directional beacons) from any possible interference. Option 2 was NOC (no change to the current rules).

In keeping with the rules of the Conference, Committee decisions must be read twice in Plenary Session; the decision of the Conference is not final until after second reading in Plenary. According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, quite a few additional administrations -- mainly in the former Soviet Union and Arab states -- will be adding their country names to the Footnotes prior to consideration in Plenary. Sumner said that Agenda Item 1.23 should have its first reading in the Plenary on Friday, February 10, with its second reading sometime next week. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/agenda-item-1-23-passes-committee-moves-to-plenary> .

==> + WRC-12: HOW ARE AGENDA ITEMS PROCESSED AT A WRC?

By IARU Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD

The procedures used by the International Telecommunication Union before and during a World Radiocommunication Conference seem complicated. They are somewhat complicated, but they are understandable with a bit of background. Each Agenda Item that will be decided at a WRC has been studied for at least three or four years leading up to a WRC. ITU Study Groups and Working Parties discuss the issues involved in the Agenda Item. Compatibility studies, sharing studies and experiments take place whenever needed, so that discussions and decisions can be made based upon facts, rather than opinions. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/wrc-update-how-are-agenda-items-processed-at-a-wrc> .

==> + WRC-12: PROPOSED MARITIME MOBILE ALLOCATION GETS FIRST READING AT WRC-12 PLENARY SESSION

At the February 3 Plenary Session of the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12), delegates heard the first reading and approved a worldwide exclusive allocation to Maritime Mobile of 495-505 kHz. There will need to be a second reading to finalize the allocation. According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, discussion of this allocation to Maritime Mobile

"has been in the works throughout the conference preparation (i.e. since 2008) and was the reason why the MF amateur allocation could not be made in this band as some amateurs had hoped. That's why we [the Amateur Radio Service] had to look elsewhere and is what put us in conflict with aeronautical radionavigation."

==> + WRC-12: NOBEL LAUREATE JOE TAYLOR, K1JT, ADDRESSES PLENARY SESSION AT WRC-12, RECEIVES ITU GOLD MEDAL

On February 3, delegates and attendees at the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference had the pleasure of listening Joe Taylor, K1JT, share his vision of the future of radiocommunication. Taylor -- an ARRL Member -- won the Nobel Prize in physics in 1993 <http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/physics/laureates/1993/> for the discovery of a binary pulsar, a discovery which has opened up new possibilities for the study of gravitation. After the speech, International Telecommunication Union Secretary General Dr Hamadoun Tour&#65533;, HB9EHT, presented Taylor with the ITU Gold Medal in recognition of Taylor's outstanding contribution to the research in the field of radiocommunication.

Dr Tour&#65533; introduced Taylor to the Plenary. In his introduction, he told the audience that Amateur Radio led to Taylor's career as a radio astronomer, and ultimately to his winning the Nobel Prize: "I'm told that an early interest in Amateur Radio led Joe Taylor to an exciting career in radio astronomy, which then earned him the 1993 Nobel Prize in physics. I share his interest in Amateur Radio with passion, but will that lead me to a Nobel Prize? I'm working on it!"

Taylor began his speech by thanking the WRC-12 delegates for the job they were doing at the Conference. "I understand that you have come to Geneva from more than 150 of the ITU's Member States," he said. "You are here to do an important job, an essential one, for nearly all of humanity in today's world. You are charged to do your upmost to accommodate the wide variety of competing interests of all users of the radio frequency spectrum and its available orbits for Earth satellites. This is surely not an easy task. Most people give very little thought to the complicated issues that you face. Why should they, since for most of us, most of the time, the technologies that depend on these limited resources just seem to work. But I know, and each one of you knows, that much background work and many long negotiations are often necessary in order to make everything fit together and work in harmony."

Taylor noted new discoveries "that have fundamentally changed or expanded our understanding of nature's laws, or might do so in the near future." But, he said, these discoveries will not affect the ITU or future WRCs for "at least not for many decades to come. This is because our fundamental understanding of electromagnetism is already in a mature state. Maxwell's equations <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maxwell%27s_equations>, after all, have

been thoroughly tested now for 150 years. And in principle, they tell us everything we need to know in order to exploit the wonders of telecommunications at the speed of light. Our understanding of these laws of nature, including what they tell us is possible and not possible, is not likely to change, even in the more distant future. But of course we can still develop new and improved ways of generating, controlling and detecting electromagnetic radiation, as well as clever new ways of effectively sharing the spectral resources that we have. Such advances as these will surely continue, and perhaps they will even increase. The fundamental science may be mature, but technology's ability to exploit and build upon electromagnetic phenomena is still rapidly developing.

"It's interesting to comment in passing on the fundamental differences between the bounded radio frequency spectrum and the balance, for example, on accessible fossil fuels. Limitations of the radio spectrum are a result of fundamental laws of nature. Every nation on Earth, and indeed every person on Earth, has access, in principle, to the same spectrum as everyone else. The amount of accessible oil, on the other hand, depends on the much more complicated way on how the Earth formed and evolved over time, and fossil fuels are not evenly distributed over the Earth and they are expendable. When it's gone, there's none left. The electromagnetic spectrum, on the other hand, will always be there, whether or not we humans are around here to enjoy using it. Moreover, the spectrum can be shared by many users simultaneously, and shared use can be especially effective if adequate planning is done in advance. That planning, of course, is an essential part of your assignments here.

"Future technologies will surely make even better uses of wireless communication than we do today. I foresee plenty of scope for contributions for new technologies. Information and communication technologies have much to offer for the betterment of the human condition everywhere, and perhaps especially so in the developing world. It is extremely important to continue seeking the best efficiencies in the use of the spectrum. I wish you every success in your task of creating wise and fair guidelines for regulators and policy makers who must allocate the limited resources in the very best interest of all mankind."

You can view Taylor's speech on YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F028RKkLefI>, courtesy of Andy Clegg, W4JE.

==> ON THE AIR: THE 2012 ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CW CONTEST TAKES TO THE AIR NEXT WEEKEND

CW DXing and contesting take center stage the weekend of February 18-19, as the 2012 ARRL International DX CW Contest takes to the airwaves. "After years of lackluster conditions on 15 and 10 meters, 2011 finally saw the propagation gods giving us a break," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. "Since September 2011, the

high bands have been in excellent shape, with worldwide openings on 15 and 10 meters becoming an almost-daily occurrence. As a result, activity has spiked in almost every major contest, with hundreds more logs being submitted. If conditions hold -- and I don't see why they wouldn't -- we're in for another high-band treat in another week or so." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-2012-arrl-international-dx-cw-contest-takes-to-the-air-next-weekend>.

==> ARRL HQ: SAVE THE DATE! TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF W1AW ON FEBRUARY 12

Join W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, on a virtual tour of W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-antenna-farm>, the Amateur Radio station at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. Carcia will lead this tour via a live webcast on Sunday, February 12 at 5 PM EST (2200 UTC). Anyone with an Internet connection will be able to watch the tour here <http://www.awecast.tv/channels/arrl/>.

"We want viewers of this live Internet tour to feel as if they are actually at W1AW," Carcia explained. "If you came to W1AW in person, you would see the same things that we are going to show on the virtual tour: The three operating stations, the W1AW workshop, the transmitter racks that we use to send out our bulletins and use for the code practice transmission, the control console and Old Betsy <http://www.arrl.org/images/view/web_008.jpg>, Hiram Percy Maxim's personal spark gap transmitter."

Al Petrunti, KA1TCH, of the New Day Group <http://www.newdayhd.com/>, will follow Carcia as he leads viewers through the station. ARRL Staff members, including Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, and Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, as well as local television weatherman Geoff Fox, K1GF <http://www.geofffox.com/>, will also be on hand at W1AW during the tour.

"Hams around the world know of W1AW, and thousands have made contacts with this impressive station -- but most hams never get to see it," Pitts said. "Thanks to Al Petrunti's group, we hope that folks enjoy seeing what's at the other end of the signals. As in all live broadcasts, you never know just what might happen. We invite you to join us." Pitts is producing the live web tour.

This is the second video that the New Day Group has made for the ARRL. In 2011, they created the HR 607 video <http://www.arrl.org/hr-607> that educated radio amateurs of a bill in Congress that addressed certain spectrum management issues, including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network using current Amateur Radio spectrum.

==> + ARRL FIELD DAY: 2012 FIELD DAY PACKET NOW AVAILABLE

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL Field Day, June 23-24, 2012! ARRL's flagship operating event -- always

held the fourth full weekend in June -- brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. Field Day packets are now available for download <http://www.arrl.org/fieldday> and include the complete rules, as well as other reference items such as forms, ARRL Section abbreviation list, entry submission instructions, a Frequently Asked Questions section, guidelines for getting bonus points, instructions for GOTA stations and a kit to publicize your event with the local press. A brief one-page flyer with basic "What is Field Day" information has also been included in this year's Field Day packet. Amateur Radio clubs and individuals are encouraged to reproduce this flyer as a handout for information tables.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "The Sun rolling high through the sapphire sky <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSFKnYD5rp4>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity was down again this week -- this is the third week in a row with sunspot numbers lower than the week prior. On January 20, we reported an average daily sunspot number of 116.9 for January 12-18, 98.7 the next week, followed by 62 the week of January 26-February 1, and now 40.4 during the latest period. The solar flux forecast -- which roughly tracks sunspot numbers; we don't have access to any short term sunspot number forecast -- is also lower. The latest forecast from NOAA/USAF has solar flux at 100 on February 9-11, 105 on February 12, and 110 on February 13-24. The predicted planetary A index is 8 on February 9-10, 5 on February 11, 8 on February 12-13, 5 on February 14-22, 8 on February 23, and 5 from February 24 through the end of the month. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, February 10. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Circle of Life <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circle_of_life> from The Lion King <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Lion_King>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- February 10 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 11 -- FISTS Winter Sprint
- February 11-12 -- Louisiana QSO Party; New Hampshire QSO Party; CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest
- February 12 -- North American Sprint (SSB); SKCC Weekend Sprint
- February 12-13 -- Classic Exchange (Phone)
- February 13-17 -- ARRL School Club Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>
- February 14-15 -- PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint (local time)
- February 15 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint; AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening

Next week:

- February 17 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 17-18 -- Russian PSK WW Contest
- February 18 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- February 18-19 -- ARRL International DX Contest (CW)
<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>; AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party
- February 20 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- February 22 -- SKCC Sprint
- February 22-23 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> BE A STAR! DEADLINE FOR SECOND ANNUAL ARRL VIDEO CONTEST IS FEBRUARY 29

If you've ever wanted a way to show the world how exciting Amateur Radio can be, here's your chance: The ARRL is sponsoring its Second Annual Video Contest! Here's a chance to put that video camera to use: Shoot a ham radio-related video and send it our way. All videos must be postmarked by February 29, 2012. Burn your video to a CD or DVD using the appropriate software and mail it to ARRL Video Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Do not attempt to send it via e-mail, as our e-mail system cannot accommodate large files. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/be-a-star-deadline-for-second-annual-arrl-video-contest-is-february-29>.

==> + SILENT KEY: FORMER ITU-R DIRECTOR DICK KIRBY, W0LCT/HB9BOA (SK)

Richard "Dick" Kirby, W0LCT/HB9BOA, passed away on January 26. He was 89. In 1974, Kirby -- an ARRL Life Member -- was elected Director of the International Telecommunication Union's International Radio Consultative Committee; he served as Director until his retirement in 1995. In 1992, under Kirby's tenure as Director, the Committee became the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R). One of three sectors at the ITU, ITU-R is responsible for matters concerning radio communication. Its role is to manage the international radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbit resources, and to develop standards for radiocommunication systems with the objective of ensuring the effective use of the spectrum. While at the ITU, Kirby also served as President of the International Amateur Radio Club, 4U1ITU, the Amateur Radio station at ITU Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/former-itu-r-director-dick-kirby-w0lct-hb9boa-sk>.

==> + SILENT KEY: ASTRONAUT JANICE VOSS, KC5BTK (SK)

NASA astronaut Janice Voss, KC5BTK, of Houston, Texas, passed away on February 7 from cancer. She was 55. One of only six women who have flown in space five times, Voss' career was highlighted by her work and

dedication to scientific payloads and exploration. Voss participated in making ham radio contacts from space via the Space Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX), the precursor to the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/astronaut-janice-voss-kc5btk-sk>.

==> SILENT KEY: WORLDRADIO FOUNDER ARMOND NOBLE, N6WR (SK)

Armond Noble, N6WR -- the founder of WorldRadio magazine and its publisher for 37 years -- passed away February 1 in Sacramento, California after a short illness. He was 77. WorldRadio was published monthly in printed form from July 1971 until the end of 2008, when Noble sold the magazine to Hicksville, New York-based CQ Communications Inc. With its February 2009 edition, the publication was renamed WorldRadio Online and became the first online-only major Amateur Radio publication . Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/em-worldradio-em-founder-armond-noble-n6wr-sk>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- February 10-12 -- ARRL Northern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northern-florida-section-convention-orlando-hamcation-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 17-18 -- ARRL Southwestern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southwestern-division-convention-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- February 18 -- ARRL Arkansas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-section-convention-1>, Hoxie, Arkansas
- February 25 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/vermont-state-convention-ham-con-2>,
South Burlington, Vermont
- March 3 -- ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/santa-clara-valley-section-convention-radiofest>,
Del Rey Oaks, California; ARRL South Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-hamfest-2>,
Rosenberg, Texas
- March 3-4 -- ARRL Alabama Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-section-convention-birminghamfest-1>,
Birmingham, Alabama
- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana-hamfest>,
Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-t
m>,
Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest
>,
Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

34. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1800 - February 10 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-10 10:00:14 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120210100003.F36E933C52@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 453
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1800 - February 10 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1800 with a release date of February 10th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham radio activates after a killer earthquake hits the Philippines; some good news out of WRC 12; new rules about United States ham radio operation on 60 meters take effect on March 5th and CQ Magazine's Editor says that ham radio use of the Morse Code is still alive and well in an era of no-code licensing. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) anniversary report number 1800 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAM RADIO RESPONDS TO PHILIPPINE QUAKE

Rescuers assisted by armed forces are hard at work searching for survivors in the quake hit central Philippines. The 6.8 temblor shook the country on Monday, February 6th. At least 56 are confirmed dead and thousands are homeless. And soon after the shaking ended ham radio operators were asked to provide what appears to be a first response effort. We have more in this report:

--

Most of the information to date comes from Jim Linton, VK3PC, who is the Chairman of the IARU Region 3 Disaster Communication Committee. Jim reports that the after effects continue across the central Philippines after the magnitude 6.8 earthquake struck triggering numerous landslides and other devastation.

Linton notes that Eddie Valdez, DU1EV, is the Chief Operating Officer for IARU society PARA. Valdez says that ham radio operators are now active in communications assistance, especially those near the quakes epicenter in the DU7 and DU6 call areas. They have chosen to mainly use the VHF and UHF bands for in-country communications. With phone communications cut, the services they are providing include message handling, reporting on widespread power outages as well as other infrastructure damage.

Meantime Radio Amateurs of Canada reports getting a message from a shortwave listener in Taiwan. He notes that 7 point 095 MHz on 40 meter Lower Sideband is also in use for emergency communications into

and out of the Philippines.

This latest disaster come on the heels of a series of typhoons that swept the Southern Philippines last December. Those storms brought with them a heavy loss of lives and severe property damage. In that scenario, radio amateurs were called on to become that nations communications front line.

For the Amateur radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles. Jim.

--

As we go to air aftershocks are continuing and the Philippine ham radio community remains on the job as an important first line of search, rescue and quake relief communications. (VK3PC, DU1EV, RAC)

**

RADIO LAW: A HAM RADIO ALLOCATION AT 500 KHZ COMES A STEP CLOSER

A ham radio allocation neat 500 KHz has taken another step closer to becoming a reality. According to several reports out of WRC 12 being held in Geneva, Switzerland, Working Group 4 has approved an agenda item that calls for a worldwide secondary allocation to the Amateur Service from 472 to 479 kHz and has sent it on to the full assembly called the Plenary for its consideration.

There are some restrictions which come with this action. Power output is limited to an effective one watt but would permit nations that are more than 800 Kilometers from an Aeronautical Service non-directional beacon to permit hams up to five watts effective radiated. Either way, ham radio operators must not interfere with any other spectrum user holding a primary status in that band.

Hat said, this is far from a done deal. Next up is two separate presentations or readings of this proposal before the Plenary session of all nations taking part in the world wide communications law making process. There, footnotes to the proposal can be added by any administration that has a representative at the conference.

While there is still a lot of work to take place before WRC 12 ends, at least near 500 KHz, there appears to be some light at the end of the proverbial tunnel in the matter of a new super low frequency ham radio band. We should know for certain by this time next week. (Various WRC 2012 Reports)

**

RADIO LAW: NEW 5 MHZ RULES GO INTO EFFECT ON MARCH 5

In the United States, word that the new rules governing ham radio operations in the 5 MHz or 60 meter spectrum take effect on March 5th. This after a notice to that affect appeared in the February 3rd edition

of the United States Federal Register.

As previously reported, last November the FCC released a Report and Order detailing new rules for the 5 MHz Amateur Radio band.

The announcement brought with it a number of changes for 60 meter operators. This included substituting a channel at 5 point 358 point 5 MHz for 5 point 368 MHz previously authorized. The effective radiated limit in the 60 meter band will be raised by 3 dB to 100 Watts Peak Envelope Power relative to a half-wave dipole. Also, three additional emission types are authorized. These are Data, RTTY and CW.

Currently, amateur radio in the United States holds a secondary allocation for 5 MHz and ham radio operations must not cause any interference to the primary users of that band. These include fixed service, as well as mobile stations authorized by the telecommunications regulators of other sovereign nations. Access in the United States to the channelized 60 meter spectrum is limited to holders of General class or high FCC license grants. You can read the entire Federal Register item explaining the 5 MHz changes at tinyurl.com/6wzsfjm (FCC)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SUMBANDILASAT MAY LIVE AGAIN

>From South Africa comes word that the SumbandilaSat amateur radio payload may resume operation in the near future. This according to the South African Radio League which says that a combination of ingenuity and innovation by the satellite payloads ground control team has resulted in bringing the ham radio functions back to life. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the latest:

--

A statement issued by South Africa AMSAT and released by the South African Radio League says that there is a real possibility that communication through SumbandilaSat may resume next month while the satellite is in sunlight. Here's the back story:

According to Johann Lochner, ZR1CBC, last June the primary controller on the power distribution unit for the On-Board Computer stopped responding to commands from the ground. While the exact cause has never been determined it appears likely that this failure was related to a major solar radiation event on June 7th.

It later appeared that the battery had also failed and nothing was heard from the satellite for some time. In the meantime the ground station operation to monitor for SumbandilaSat on passes over South Africa and to begin any recovery procedure was automated.

After a month of trying contact was made with SumbandilaSat. That was last November and the control team set in place a planned recovery procedure. It took about 4 days to discover that the main battery had

indeed failed with SumbandilaSat responding only when it's solar panels were in full sunlight.

The ground stations at the South Africa National Space Agency's operations center at and the Electronic Systems Laboratory at Stellenbosch University are now receiving telemetry when the satellite's solar panels are illuminated by the sun. As a result, Lochner is confident that some operations will be restored even to the point where it may be possible to have the amateur radio transponder back in operation within a reasonable time frame.

The bottom line is that while the overall space-frame has been written off by South Africa's SunSpace, the SumbandilaSat ham radio payload may be usable whenever the bird is illuminated by the Sun. In the world of ham radio space operations having that kind of service is far better than having nothing at all.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdle, Arizona.

--

More on SumbandilaSat recovery efforts are on line at www.amsatsa.org.za. (SARL)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including radio station CHNW on 88.7 FM serving the city of Westminister, near Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: PROPOSED MOBILE CELLPHONE LAW COULD END HAM RADIO MOBILE OPERATIONS IN ILLINOIS

Proposed laws introduced into both houses of the Illinois legislature could severely impact on mobile operation by hams, C-B operators and even long-haul truckers passing through that state. Matthew Chambers, NR0QQ, has the details:

--

New legislation has been introduced into the Illinois House that will have a significant impact on the mobile use of amateur radio transceivers within the state.

House Bill 3970 introduced by Democrat Representative Karen May would ban use of all electronic communication devices with the limited exceptions of those in a hands-free or voice-activated mode and for

law-enforcement and operators of emergency vehicles or parked vehicles.

Not included in that bill is any exceptions for two way radios or amateur radios. That would in effect ban all amateur and CB / GMRS / FRS activity in vehicles in Illinois.

Also introduced into the Illinois House is House Bill 3972 by Democrat Representative John D'Amico that is identical to HB 3970.

As the legislative sessions are getting into full swing across the nation, here at the Amateur Radio Newsline we will be watching closely as more cell phone bills are being introduced that may effect the mobile use of amateur transceivers.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Matthew Chambers NR0Q.

--

As we go to air, efforts are being made from within the amateur radio community to obtain exclusion for mobile ham radio operations, but the wording of the two measures may make that very hard to accomplish. (NR0Q)

**

ENFORCEMENT: COLLEGE STATION GIVES UP LICENSE FOR NET ONLY OPERATION

Yet another college radio station has gone QRT. Amateur Radio Newsline's Stephen Kinford, N8WB, reports:

--

Paul Smiths College in Adirondack Park, New York, has relinquished its Class D FM broadcast license for its campus radio station WPSA FM. The school had been facing problems keeping it on the air that came from a series of FCC Monetary Forfeiture Orders over the late renewal of the station license in 2006 as well as lack of interest from the student body in the stations operation.

WPSA reportedly operated at around 10 watts with a service radius of two miles that covered little more than the campus. Its problems began when its license was cancelled by the FCC and the call sign deleted. Two years later, the college filed a Petition for Reconsideration and had it reinstated. Following the late renewal in 2006, the FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture in the amount of $7,000 fine for unauthorized operation of a radio station after the license had expired.

Adding to the situation was a seeming loss of interest by its potential audience. According to the schools coordinator for student activities, students were part of the decision to give up the broadcast license. She said that no one wanted to participate in it and that it had very few listeners.

The spokesperson added that it appears the trend these days is that the students are on-line rather than listening on the airways.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Stephen Kinford, N8WB, reporting.

--

WPSA will live on but without a transmitter or antenna. Current plans are to bring it back to life, but as a strictly online entity. (RW)

**

COMMUNICATIONS LAW: FCC CHAIRMAN EMBRACES DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski has joined Secretary of Education Arne Duncan to discuss the state of digital learning in American schools.

At the first-ever Digital Learning Day Town Hall held recently in Washington, D.C., the Digital Textbook Collaborative presented them with the "Digital Textbook Playbook." This is a plan to help Kindergarten through 12th grade schools transition to digital textbooks. The Collaborative also helped the FCC and the Department of Education update the School 2.0 bandwidth planner to help schools plan for their connectivity needs.

At the meeting, Chairman Genachowski challenged state leaders and the digital textbook industry ecosystem to make national adoption of digital textbook a reality. He also announced a meeting for March with CEOs of companies in the digital learning space to drive national adoption of digital textbooks in the next five years.

The complete FCC press release that details the agency's plans to help facilitate the conversion to digital textbooks is available on-line at tinyurl.com/fcc-digital-textbooks. (FCC)

**

LIGHT SQUARED VS GPS: GOVERNMENT REPORT SAYS THERES NO WAY FOR THE TWO TO CO-EXIST

More problems for LightSquared in its bid to construct a 4 G network in spectrum adjacent to that used by the GPS navigation system. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

--

A joint panel of representatives from nine federal agencies says that it has determined that there are no practical solutions that would allow LightSquared's proposed broadband service to operate without significantly interfering with the Global Positioning System or GPS that operates in adjacent spectrum.

The report was made in a January 13th letter from the National Executive Committee for Space-Based Positioning, Navigation, and Timing to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. It said that over the past year it has closely worked with LightSquared to

evaluate its original deployment plan, and subsequent modifications, to address interference concerns. It said that substantial federal resources were expended and diverted from other programs in testing and analyzing LightSquared's proposals. The report added that no further tests are warranted, as LightSquared has not demonstrated any means that would prevent such interference from occurring.

As previously reported, numerous tests over the past year have shown that signals from LightSquared's proposed 4G network held the potential to interfere with the weaker signals from space used by global positioning system receivers. As a result, In December 2011, the company offered to limit its signal to lower frequency spectrum farthest away from the bandwidth used by GPS in exchange for immediate access to that spectrum. Then as reported last week LightSquared lashed out at the GPS industry in a Federal Communications Commission filing, claiming poor design of GPS units is solely to blame for the problem.

Not surprisingly, LightSquared immediately issued its own press release calling for the FCC and NTIA to retake the lead on conducting tests of its network, claiming the committee report demonstrated bias and inappropriate collusion with the private sector. LightSquared noted a director for Trimble GPS, whom is called an outspoken LightSquared opponent, served as Director of the Advisory Board. It also claims that government testing has become unfair and shrouded from the public eye.

With the latest on this seemingly never ending story, Im Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

With the committee decision now on the books, a final ruling from the FCC on whether LightSquared will be allowed to go ahead with its plans to turn on its 4 G could come at any time. (Various News Reports)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W9GKA WANTS JANUARY VHF CONTEST E-SKIP INFO

Some names in the news. First up is Kevin Kaufhold, W9GKA, of Belleville, Illinois. He says over the VHF Reflector that he is looking for log data on the E-skip conditions in this year's January VHF Sweepstakes. W9GKA says that he is writing an article on the e-skip QSO's in the contest, and would like to include as much information as possible. If you can assist, please send the log information on your e-skip contacts to him at kaufhold (at) yahoo (dot) com. (W9GKA)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: G0SFJ RELEASES NEW NOVEL INVOLVING MORSE CODE

A new novel featuring Morse code and radio is now available for purchase on the internet. Of Martian Lines was written by Andy Thomas, G0SFJ. It's plot is set on the Mars and in modern Russia and the Ukraine of two generations in the future. The book is described as a blend of cosmology, radio, space technology and Russian literature.

This is the second novel in the "Dmitri" series that explores the first Russian colony on Mars, and the lies and tensions the first Cosmonaut colonists from Earth bring with them. Of Martian Lines is available for sale on-line at www.createspace.com/3739192 (Southgate)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: SARL NATIONAL CONVENTION

The 2012 South Africa Radio League's National Convention will be held in Pinetown from April 20th to the 22 at the Premier Hotel in Pinetown. The event kicks off with a buffet type supper at the Highway Clubhouse on Friday evening featuring a presentation highlighting how South Africa's electronic industry found it's origin in Pinetown and the local development off SSB.

The South Africa Radio League's Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday morning at the hotel venue followed by two presentations covering VHF antennas and Logbook of the World. An awards banquet will also be held at the Premier Hotel. The full program and booking details are available on-line at www.sarl.org.za. (SARL)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAMVENTION 2012 QCWA DINNER MAY 18

The 2012 QCWA Banquet will take place on Friday May 18th at the Dayton Ohio Airport Holiday Inn simultaneously with the Dayton Hamvention. The gathering will begin at 7:30 p.m. Eastern time with nature photography expert John Lemker as the featured after dinner speaker. For more information or to make reservations please contact Jerry Ragland, WA8BOB, at his Callbook or QRZ.com address.

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: WORLDRADIO FOUNDER ARMOND NOBLE, N6WR - SK

The changing of the guard in amateur radio continues with the sad news that Armond Noble, N6WR, founder and publisher of WorldRadio Magazine

for 37 years has become a silent key. According to Les Cobb, W6TEE, Noble died February 1st in Sacramento, California after a short illness.

The print version of WorldRadio was published monthly from July 1971 until the end of 2008, when N6WR sold the magazine to Hicksville, New York-based CQ Communications, Inc.

Armond Noble had a long and distinguished career in communications and the media. From 1953 to 1955 he served in the U.S. Army with a VHF radio relay unit. He went on to positions at commercial radio and TV stations around the United States. These included KTWO-TV and KATI in Casper, Wyoming; KOOK-TV, Billings, Montana; KTVB, Boise, Idaho; KERO-TV, Bakersfield, California, WOOD-TV, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and KCRA Radio in Sacramento.

During the Vietnam War, Noble was a reporter and photographer for TIME magazine and the Milwaukee Journal. He also served in the TIME-LIFE bureau in Sacramento, California.

Armond Noble, N6WR, was reportedly hospitalized about two months ago. As we go to air memorial services have not been announced. (W6TEE, W6FJ, CQ Publishing)

**

WORLDBEAT: RSGB WANS HAMS ABOUT UNAUTHORIZED USE OF OLYMPIC LOGOS

The Radio Society of Great Britain is warning that although telecommunications regulator Ofcom has granted permission for that nations radio amateurs to use special prefixes over this summer, this permission does not extend to use of the various logos associated with the London Olympic games on QSL cards or elsewhere.

The RSGB notes that these logos, or Games Marks as they are called in the UK, are strictly controlled by the London Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. As such they are not free for individuals and organizations to use without express permission..

There is so far only one exception. Project ECHO which is concerned with the two main special event stations has been granted permission to use the games Inspire logo, but only in a limited way.

More information about the use of the Olympic logos and their use can be found in the at the Frequently Asked Questions on the www.london2012.com website. (RSGB)

**

DX

In DX, HA0NAR and HA0SR will be active as FW0NAR from Uvea Island through February 20th. The plans were to have two stations active on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY, with a focus on the lower

bands. However, this may change since they lost the third operator who was to make the trip. QSL FW0NAR via HA0NAR.

SP5APW is expected to visit Phu Quoc Island between March 7th and the 12th. He has applied for the callsign 3W4JK. Operations will likely be holiday style on 40 through 10 meters using SSB, PSK31 and RTTY, with possible operations on 6 meters. QSL as directred on the air.

Lastly, well placed reports indicate that an international group of 10 operators will activate St. Paul Island during the middle part of 2012. More details should be forthcoming in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports.

(Abve from various DX News Sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: CQ SAYS MORSE IS ALIVE AND WELL

Finally this we we take a trip back to February of 2007. Thsats when the Federal Communications Commission took action to eliminate Morse Code testing as a requisite requirement to obtain any class of Amateur Service license in the United States. Now, five years later, CQ Magazine Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, has published a very pointed editorial where-in he notes that both ham radio and use of the Morse code are alive, well and growing. This despite the ney-sayers who predicted the abandoning of Morse testing would bring a sudden end to the hobby.

In his editorial titled "No-Code Plus Five Years: An Assessment", W2VU, states that ham radio is still here. CW is still here and despite the fears of many CW supporters the universe did not implode on February 23, 2007.

Rather his article was prepared based on research that checked on signs of the state use of Morse by today's ham radio community. It did this by asking manufacturer of keys and paddles about sales, talking to the FISTS Morse preservation group, looking at CW contest results and overall United States licensing statistics. And says W2VU, the article has already brought some interesting response:

--

W2VU: "We've gotten a lot of good feedback from readers on this already and any ofb them are agreeing with the comment that we had at the end that the only real hiccup that we see and that was pointed out by Nancy Kott, WZ8C, is a difference in the conversion of CW learners to comfortable CW operators. That a lot of the newer hams that are learning the code do not yet feel comfortable on the air with it."

--

Moseson adds that ham radio has a long tradition of lending a helping hand to newcomers in need of assistance:

--

W2VU: "The best way to deal with this of coarse is the way that hams have dealt with learning experiences for decades which is to hook up experienced people with newcomers and helping them one-on-one, either on the air or off to be more comfortable as code operators and they will find a lot more enjoyment in it."

--

Without giving away all the findings in the article, W2VU does note that Morse has a bright future in amateur radio, despite or perhaps because of the elimination of the code test requirement. You can judge for yourself by reading Rich Moserson's complete article. You will find it on-line in Adobe PDF format at tinyurl.com/6rreyxy (ARNewsline(tm), VK3PC)

**

A VER SPECIAL NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

Before we go, I just want to say a word of thank you to all of you who listen in each week to these Amateur Radio Newsline bulletins. As we end this 1800th consecutive week of bringing these newscasts to you, we want to pause for a moment and look back to 1977 when Jim Hendershot, WA6VQP, and Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, produced and issued the first Westlink Radio Network bulletin. It was devoted entirely to repeater deregulation and only heard by those in the Los Angeles area with a transceiver set to 223.5 MHz simplex. Likely no more than two dozen people or so. Now just a few months shy of 35 years later, Amateur Radio Newsline, which is the successor name to Westlink Radio, is heard on thousands of repeaters world wide and by tens of thousands over the Internet. And as it was back in 1977, so it remains a free listener supported service to the ham radio by your fellow radio amateurs.

Yes, there are many people to thank, but we will limit it to three who were part of the original 1970's core group and who sadly have become Silent Keys. So as we end Newscast 1800 we lift up our imaginary glass to toast the lasting memory of our original Production Coordinator Bill Orenstein KH6QX. We also salute the master wordsmith and anchor Alan Kaul, W6RCL. Last but by no means lest, we remember our guiding light of many years and the man who made it possible for Astronauts to take ham radio into space. Of coarse we are referring to one of the world's greatest news reporters, producers and anchors, the late Roy Neal, K6DUE, of NBC Network News. All three may no longer be with us in the

flesh, but they will never be forgotten here in the Amateur Radio Newsline studios. What they helped to pioneer in the 1970's 1980's and 1990's is the reason you are hearing this 1800th newscast right now.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, and for all of the Amateur Radio Newsline volunteers the world over, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening all of these years. You are an important part of the Amateur Radio Newsline family and we would not be here if not for you.

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35. Short wave broadcasting amateur radio event

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-10 11:12:26 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120210003432.78DC421004@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 454
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.radio.info

I received this from Allen Pits, W1AGP. Allen is the Media and PR
Manager for the ARRL.

A major opportunity came up today, and you can take part in it....

SATURDAY Feb 11 at 4-10 PM CENTRAL

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TO A WORLD WIDE LISTENING AUDIENCE.

FROM 4 – 6 PM / 2200 - 2400 UTC THE FREQUENCY IS 9990 KHZ

FROM 6 – 10 PM / 2400 - 0400 UTC THE FREQUENCY IS 5085 KHZ

THE CALL IN NUMBER IS 615-547-9520

Call in and talk about:

WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO,
YOUR FAVORITE MODES,
YOUR LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AND ITS ACTIVITIES,
YOUR PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN AMATEUR RADIO

It is not very often that you can hear a new HF shortwave radio station
sign on the air. WTWW a new International Shortwave Radio facility just
outside of Nashville, TN is launching a new transmitter this Saturday
with a broadcast we are calling “This Is Only A Test” starting at 4
pm Central Standard Time. This is a 100,000 watt (wow!) transmitter
running into a full size rhombic antenna! They need to test it -and
while they are at it Ted Randall has set things up for hams to talk
about Amateur Radio.

This is a global radio event with radios being tuned in all over the
world.

The QSO radio show has requested hams to call in as a amateur radio
event to promote amateur radio along with shortwave listening. Why?
Well, the shortwave listening audience is huge and the typical
shortwave radio listener is a great potential candidate for amateur
radio. There are more than 1.5 billion shortwave receivers in use
worldwide, the BBC estimates that at any given moment, over 200 million
sets are tuned to shortwave broadcasts.

This is the second time WTWW has allowed us to conduct this kind of
broadcast on a powerful new shortwave facility. The purpose of this
broadcast is to demonstrate HF communications … and to put radio
amateurs on the air to a worldwide audience to tell their story.

By the way… this particular broadcast is not a commercial venture in any way. Maybe later it will be (they hope!) but not yet J So spread the word and call in on Saturday to “This Is Only A Test” and talk to the world about Amateur Radio!

Allen w1agp

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org

---

36. Mike Nickolaus, NF0N, in the news!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-13 15:58:01 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120213142617.5D8BC203F5@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 455
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

I am pleased to let you know that there was a great article about Mike Nickolaus, NF0N, in the February 9 issue of the Dakota County Star. Mike is the Nebraska Section Traffic Manager. The article not only included Mike's history as a ham, but included several positive remarks about our hobby.

You can read the article at the paper's website:
http://tinyurl.com/nf0n-news

Congratulations, Mike! I know I speak for a whole bunch of hams when I say we're proud of you!

73, Art K0AIZ

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
---

37. Fifth Anniversary of rec.radio.amateur.moderated

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-13 17:37:21 UTC
From: "rec.radio.amateur.moderated Admin" <rram@panix.com>
Message-ID: <jhbhlt$i8q$1@reader1.panix.com>
Source record: 456
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

The Usenet newsgroup rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be five years old this month, having been created on February 22, 2007.

Sometimes the most powerful motivator to succeed is being told that something can't be done. When a group of us decided to try to create a new Usenet group, we were told:

- Usenet is dying, and a new newsgroup will not succeed.

- On-line discussion of sometimes contentious issues about amateur radio can't be done without degrading into personal attacks.

- Moderators can't be fair and unbiased, or promptly attentive to the submission queue.

Five years later, we're happy to have proven those assumptions wrong. Our newsgroup appears at most major (and minor) news server sites, including Google Groups and Radio Banter. We have a modest readership and over 5,000 articles approved (an average of about 3 per day). We have been able to approach sometimes controversial issues about amateur radio without degrading into incivility. Whatever required editorial control and oversight has proven to be light, with nearly all contributors willing to abide by fair and simple rules of engagement. The moderation software we adapted, Secure Team-Based Usenet Moderation Program (STUMP), made our newsgroup secure and reliable, with prompt article turnaround. In fact, it has worked so well that we have provided our adapted configuration of STUMP to several other successful radio-related moderated newsgroups, including rec.radio.info, rec.radio.broadcasting, and ba.broadcast.moderated.

If you haven't participated on Usenet in a while -- either by reading or posting -- please consider rejoining us. If you've never been on Usenet, we invite you to give it a try!

Usenet is still very much alive, and can be a useful venue for many topics, including amateur radio. The long-standing advantages of Usenet newsgroups still remain, and include:

- The user can control the interface (choices of newsreader software)

- killfiles

- threading

- unified, but distributed, discussion on specific topics

- efficient use of bandwidth

- rugged, distributed transport system that has been in place for decades

More information about rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info can be obtained from:

http://www.panix.com/~rram/

More information about access to newsgroups can be obtained from:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers

More information about newsreader software can be obtained from:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/Newsreaders

Many radio-related newsgroups can also be accessed via the following free web sites:

rec.radio.* newsgroups on Google Groups (http://groups.google.com/groups/dir?sel=usenet%3Drec.radio)

RadioBanter (http://www.radiobanter.com)

Additional thanks, and credit for our success, go to:

- The Big-8 Management Board for Usenet, including Marty Moleski and Tim Skirvin

- Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC (Panix)

- Igor Chudov, author of STUMP

Here's hoping for at least five more successful years.

--
rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team
rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com

38. Re: I'm going to introduce a new mode

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-14 01:21:34 UTC
From: Brighid KF7RHB <kf7rhb@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <d35ffe18-3cfe-4bfc-906b-e54b81b0ba3f@4g2000pbz.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 457

Resistance is futile!

Haha, quite funny.

39. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-15 07:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1329289201@panix.com>
Source record: 458
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
```

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

40. Congratulations of Five Years

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-15 15:21:56 UTC
From: Jeff Davis <ke9v@sdf.org>
Message-ID: <slrn3vfsjjnhvr.a6n.ke9v@sverige.freeshell.org>
Source record: 459

Just wanted to pass along my congratulations to those who had the vision to create a moderated amateur radio newsgroup that has now stood the test of time. I was probably one of those who rolled my eyes when I first heard about this project but it seems to have worked out very well.

Would love to see a little more traffic here but the moderation has been top-notch and has ably served to keep things civil and on track which significantly raises the S/N ratio.

Looking forward to the next five years!

73,
--
Jeff, KE9V

41. Re: What's up with K1MAN

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-16 00:12:40 UTC
From: Stephen Carroll <carroll.sg@verizon.net>
Message-ID: <l2lnj7pto6m0bpd6gaun8curjm46p3pbb9@4ax.com>
Source record: 460

While all of us have screwed up at one time or another, none have done
so with as much panache as K1MAN.

On Mon, 6 Feb 2012 22:24:10 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> wrote:

>On 2/6/2012 9:16 PM, KC4UAI wrote:
>>
>> I was just checking up on this topic and I we just had a major
>> development.
>
>[snip]
>
>> We are one step closer.... It looks like we are closer to the end
>> than the beginning. Unless the appeal court holds things up, or K1MAN
>> can somehow gum up the works with the administrative hearing, we
>> should be done with this by the end of the year, maybe even within 6
>> months?
>
>"The mills of the Gods grind exceedingly slow, but they grind
>exceedingly fine. "
>
>Let's give the legal process time to play out, and in the meantime,
>let's remember that we've all done things we regretted afterwards. No
>matter how much discomfort K1MAN has caused to a few ham radio
>operators, in the grand scheme of things, it's not going to change history.
>
>"Everyone's a little queer except for me and thee....and sometimes I
>wonder about thee."
>
>W1AC

42. FCC Daily Digest 02/16/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-16 17:35:58 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-512290-2012.02.16-11.50.37--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 461
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 32 February 16
, 2012
* * * * *

[...]

Released: 02/15/2012. CGB SEEKS COMMENT ON TERMINATION OF CERTAIN PROCEE
DINGS AS DORMANT. (DA No. 12-220). (Dkt No 12-39). CGB . Contact: Dorot
hy Stifflemire at (202) 418-7349, email: Dorothy.Stifflemire@fcc.gov http:/
/hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-220A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-220A2.xls
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-220A3.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-220A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-220A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-220A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-220A2.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-220A3.txt

[...]

43. The ARRL Letter for February 16, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-16 23:24:36 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120216225415.5405024703@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 462
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

February 16, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + WRC-12: Amateur Radio Gets Secondary MF Allocation at WRC-12
- WRC-12: IARU Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, Chats with ITU
- + WRC-15: WRC-12 Delegates Place Possible 5 MHz Allocation on Agenda
for Next WRC
- +On the Air: ARRL 500 kHz Experimental Group Sparked Interest in MF
Operation
- + On the Air: RAC to Split Ontario into Four Sections
- + Amateur Radio in Space: NASA Selects AMSAT Fox Satellite to Join
Program
- Amateur Radio in Space: Texas Hams Make World Record Balloon Attempt
- Amateur Radio in Space: New Satellites Reach Orbit
- Solar Update
- This Week in Radiosport
- + ARRL HQ: ARRL Headquarters to Close in Observance of Presidents Day
- + Be a Star! Deadline for Second Annual ARRL Video Contest is
February 29
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + WRC-12: AMATEUR RADIO GETS SECONDARY MF ALLOCATION AT WRC-12

It's official -- delegates attending the 2012 World
Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) have approved a new
7-kilohertz-wide secondary allocation between 472-479 kHz for the
Amateur Radio Service. Agenda Item 1.23 had both its first and second
readings in Plenary Session on Tuesday, February 14; to become part of
the ITU's Radio Regulations, each Agenda Item must be read twice in
Plenary Session. While the Final Acts will be signed on Friday,
February 17 at the close of the Conference, the new allocation will not
take effect until it is entered into the Radio Regulations on January
1, 2013. In any case, no amateur can use the band until his or her
```

national regulations are revised to implement the allocation. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-gets-secondary-mf-allocation-at-wrc-12>.

==> WRC-12: IARU VICE PRESIDENT OLE GARPESTAD, LA2RR, CHATS WITH ITU

IARU Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, sat down for a video interview with the ITU Press Office at 4U1ITU (operating as 4U1WRC), the Amateur Radio station at ITU Headquarters in Geneva. During the interview, IARU Region 1 President Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, operated CW in the background. Garpestad discussed Agenda Item 1.23 and what it means to the Amateur Radio Service, what the IARU does at the WRC, the future of Amateur Radio, and what the Amateur Radio Service and the IARU are doing for the next WRC. Watch the video here <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eaxLAem_YMA>.

==> + WRC-15: WRC-12 DELEGATES PLACE POSSIBLE 5 MHZ ALLOCATION ON AGENDA FOR NEXT WRC

One of the responsibilities of each WRC delegation is to set the agenda for the next WRC. WRC-12 delegates approved an Amateur Radio-related agenda item for the upcoming WRC-15: To consider the possibility of making an allocation of an appropriate amount of spectrum, not necessarily contiguous, to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis within the band 5250-5450 kHz. This will be Agenda Item 1.4 at WRC-15.

"It is always a challenge to have items placed on the agenda for future WRCs," IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, told the ARRL. "I am pleased that we were successful in having an Agenda Item for a potential allocation at 5 MHz on a secondary basis. There will be much work to do over the next ITU study group cycle. Much appreciation is owed to the IARU and the national delegation teams in Geneva for their hard work on this issue."

According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, the original 5 MHz proposal came from Cuba. "The IARU team worked hard to line up support," he explained. "The factor that worked most in our favor was that at WRC-07, a proposal for a 5 MHz agenda item for WRC-12 failed to gain enough support, so there was a feeling that the Amateur Service deserved better treatment this time around. We did have active support from a number of administrations in Latin America which helped a lot, but a lot of others also had to agree to get it on the agenda. The coordinators of future Agenda Items on behalf of the regional telecommunications organizations, such as CITEL and CEPT, eventually agreed on a package of Agenda Items that included ours." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/wrc-12-delegates-place-possible-5-mhz-allocation-on-agenda-for-next-wrc>.

==> +ON THE AIR: ARRL 500 KHZ EXPERIMENTAL GROUP SPARKED INTEREST IN MF OPERATION

In September 2006, the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology granted a Part 5 experimental license -- WD2XSH -- to the ARRL on behalf of a group of radio amateurs who were interested in investigating spectrum in the vicinity of 500 kHz. Called the ARRL 500 kHz Experiment, this group of hams -- led by Fritz Raab, W1FR -- received permission to experiment and do research between 505-510 kHz using narrowband modes at power levels of up to 20 W effective radiated power (ERP), using CW and PSK31.

<http://www.arrl.org/images/view/News/Feb2012_600MeterStations.jpg>
The original 500 kHz license called for 23 discrete fixed sites across the US: at Raab's QTH in Vermont, as well as at sites in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. In 2008, the FCC expanded the scope of the experimental license, allowing for more frequencies, more stations and portable operations: The group could now operate between 495-510 kHz, the number of stations increased from 23 to 42 and participants could now operate within 50 km of their designated stations.

At the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-2012), delegates approved an amateur secondary MF allocation between 472-479 kHz. The ARRL would like to acknowledge the contributions of the participants in the ARRL 500 kHz Experiment to the recent approval of a new amateur secondary MF allocation, and to thank them for their efforts. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-500-khz-experimental-group-sparked-interest-in-mf-operation>.

==> + ON THE AIR: RAC TO SPLIT ONTARIO INTO FOUR SECTIONS

On February 6, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) issued a statement on their website that the Ontario Section would be split into four new RAC Administrative Sections, effective September 1, 2012. The reason given for the restructure was "...to create a management model that better communicates with, and represents the interests of, the overall Ontario amateur population." The Ontario Section will be dissolved and be replaced with four new RAC Sections: Ontario North, Ontario South, Ontario East and the Greater Toronto Area. The new section abbreviations will be announced when final. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/rac-to-split-ontario-into-four-sections>.

==> + AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: NASA SELECTS AMSAT FOX SATELLITE TO JOIN PROGRAM

Project ELaNa -- NASA's "Educational Launch of NanoSat" managed by the Launch Services Program at the Kennedy Space Center -- announced on February 10 that the AMSAT Fox-1 CubeSat has been selected to join the program. NASA will work with AMSAT in a collaborative agreement for NASA to cover the integration and launch costs of satellites deemed to have merit in support of their strategic and educational goals. Read more here

<http://www.arrl.org/news/nasa-selects-amsat-fox-satellite-to-join-program>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: TEXAS HAMS MAKE WORLD RECORD BALLOON ATTEMPT

A group of Amateur Radio operators hopes to establish a world distance record for an unmanned helium-filled balloon. The BLT-28 balloon will undertake a journey across the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, and then on to Nanjing, China. The South Texas Balloon Launch Team released the balloon at 3 PM (CST) on February 11 from Katy, Texas, just outside of Houston.

During the trans-Atlantic crossing, when out of range of shore based stations, the balloon's APRS beacon will operate on the International Space Station (ISS) packet digipeater frequency of 145.825 MHz. The balloon payload package weighs only about 5 ounces and contains a high altitude GPS tracking system and a 144 MHz FM APRS Amateur Radio transmitter. To conserve weight and battery life, no camera equipment will be on board. The maximum altitude is expected to be above 19 miles, with horizontal speeds between 100 and 150 miles per hour. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/world-record-balloon-attempt>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: NEW SATELLITES REACH ORBIT

On February 13, a European Space Agency Vega rocket lifted off from Kourou, French Guiana on its inaugural flight. It carried the Laser Relativity Spacecraft to orbit along with eight student-built MicroSats and CubeSats. The student satellites will transmit telemetry in the VHF, UHF and microwave amateur bands, with one satellite also including a voice repeater. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/new-satellites-reach-orbit>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Certain as the Sun rising in the east <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oeoPtz0F2Ck>" Cook, K7RA, reports: We are more than halfway through the winter season, as Sunday, February 5 was 45 days after the winter solstice. Propagation should improve as we approach the vernal equinox on March 20. Solar activity is still in the temporary doldrums, with sunspot numbers below 100. But the weekly average of daily sunspot numbers rose this week by over 15 points to 55.6. There was a geomagnetic storm on Wednesday, February 15 (UTC). Early in the UTC day (Tuesday night in North America), the planetary K index went to 5, and the planetary A index was 22. The College A index in Fairbanks was estimated at 46, which is quite high. The disturbance was probably from a CME a few days earlier. Aurora in North America was seen as far south as Minnesota. The latest forecast has solar flux about 55-60 points lower than last month's prediction for the ARRL International CW DX Contest <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx> this weekend. Latest predicted flux values are 105 on February 16, 110 on February 17-20, 105 on February 21-22, 110 on February 23, and 115 on February 24-26. The predicted flux values bounce around from 105-110 from

February 27-March 13, then go back to 115 on March 14-16 and again on March 20-24. The predicted planetary A index for February 16-23 is 10, 5, 8, 8, 5, 5, 5 and 9, then 5 on February 24-March 1. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, February 17. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Disney's Beauty and the Beast <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beauty_and_the_Beast_%281991_film%29>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- February 17 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 17-18 -- Russian PSK WW Contest
- February 18 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- February 18-19 -- ARRL International DX Contest (CW) <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>; AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party
- February 20 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- February 22 -- SKCC Sprint
- February 22-23 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- February 24 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 24-26 -- CQ 160 Meter Contest (SSB)
- February 25-26 -- Mississippi QSO Party; North American QSO Party (RTTY); REF Contest (SSB); UBA DX Contest (CW)
- February 26 -- High Speed Club CW Contest; SARL Digital Contest
- February 26-27 -- North Carolina QSO Party
- February 27 -- CQC Winter QSO Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> + ARRL HQ: ARRL HEADQUARTERS TO CLOSE IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS DAY

ARRL Headquarters will be closed in observance of Presidents Day on Monday, February 20. There will be no W1AW bulletin or code practice transmissions <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> that day. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Tuesday, February 21 at 8 AM Eastern Standard Time. We wish everyone a safe Presidents Day holiday.

==> + BE A STAR! DEADLINE FOR SECOND ANNUAL ARRL VIDEO CONTEST IS FEBRUARY 29

If you've ever wanted a way to show the world how exciting Amateur
Radio can be, here's your chance: The ARRL is sponsoring its Second
Annual Video Contest! Shoot a ham radio-related video and send it our
way. All videos must be postmarked by February 29, 2012. Burn your
video to a CD or DVD using the appropriate software and mail it to ARRL
Video Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Do not attempt to send
it via e-mail, as our e-mail system cannot accommodate large files.
Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/be-a-star-deadline-for-second-annual-arrl-video-con
test-is-february-29>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- February 17-18 -- ARRL Southwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southwestern-division-convention-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- February 18 -- ARRL Arkansas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-section-convention-1>, Hoxie,
Arkansas
- February 25 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/vermont-state-convention-ham-con-2>,
South Burlington, Vermont
- March 3 -- ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/santa-clara-valley-section-convention-radiofest
>,
Del Rey Oaks, California; ARRL South Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-
hamfest-2>,
Rosenberg, Texas
- March 3-4 -- ARRL Alabama Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-section-convention-birminghamfest-1>,
Birmingham, Alabama
- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana
-hamfest>,
Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest
-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-t
m>,
Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest
>,
Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas

- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
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communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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44. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1801 - February 17 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-17 18:10:24 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120217180815.914E133C52@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 463
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1801 - February 17 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1801 with a release date of February 17th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. WRC 2012 ends and ham radio get a new 600 meter allocation. Also, the 2 Gigahertz band comes under attack in Sweden; ham radio gets an exclusion from a proposed Illinois distracted driving law; a high altitude ham radio balloon heading from Texas to China disappears over the Gulf of Mexico and spray on antennas become a reality. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1801 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: WARC 2012 ENDS - THE OUTCOME FOR HAM RADIO

The 2012 World Radiocommunications Conference, better known as WRC 12 has come to a close. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the Newsroom with some good news for ham radio:

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At its Plenary meeting held on February 14th, the World Radiocommunication Conference approved a new secondary frequency allocation to the Amateur Radio Service from 472 to 479 kHz. Having passed its First and Second Readings it is normally a formality that this change be included in the conferences Final Acts when the gathering concludes and the Table of Frequency Allocations would then be amended accordingly.

As a secondary user, amateur radio shares 472 to 479 kHz with the Maritime Mobile Service which is the primary user in all three ITU Regions and with the Aeronautical Radionavigation Service which is a Secondary user except as noted in the following footnotes:

One footnote reads that a number of countries will identify their intent to elevate the status of their Aeronautical Radionavigation Service to Primary as a step in ensuring protection from secondary users.

Also there is a footnote that says that the power which radio amateurs may use in 472 to 479 kHz will be limited to 5 watts effective radiated except for amateur stations within 800 km of the borders of a number of countries. These are principally Russia, many of the former Soviet bloc

nations and the Arab states. For those affected amateurs the power output limit will be 1 watt.

It is, of course, up to individual administrations to authorize use of the band by their amateurs. How long it will before the band is available to hams in the United States? That's up to the bureaucrats in Washington D.C.. At this point that is unknown.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

The new band at 600 meters will represent the return of amateurs to the medium waves. This is an area of spectrum that hams have not had access to since the earliest days of radio regulation. More on WRC 12 in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (RAC)

**

RESTRUCTURING: SSA SAYS HAM RADIO AND BROADBAND CAN SHARE 13 CM

The 13 centimeter ham band is under threat of reallocation in Sweden. This as that nations Telecommunications regulator the Department of Post and Telecommunications has suggested that the 2300 to 2450 MHz spectrum be transferred for use by broadband systems. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, is here with the details:

--

As part of the rule making process the Swedish national amateur radio society, the SSA, has submitted it's response to Sweden's telecommunications regulator on this matter. In it, the SSA argues that the nations amateur service should remain in the 2.3 GHz band and if needed share this spectrum with any other users.

SSA notes that wideband digital systems are becoming less sensitive to narrowband signals. This it says improves the possibilities for such a form of band sharing arrangement.

Among its position points the SSA believes that communication with amateur satellites in the band from 2400 to 2450 MHz should continue to be permitted.

The SSA is also requesting a meeting with the Department of Post and Telecommunications to discuss the technological basis for continuing the amateur service in the this band.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, near Pittsburg, PA.

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More on the amateur radio response to the proposed reallocation translated into Google English is on-line at

tnyurl.com/SSA2300MHzResponse (Southgate, SSA)

**

RADIO SCIENCE: COMMUNICATIONS LOST WITH BLT-28 TEXAS TO CHINA HAM RADIO BALLOON

Communications with a high altitude amateur radio floating balloon that was launched from Texas with a final goal of reaching Nanjing China has been lost. BLT-28 transmitting callsign KT5TK-11 on APRS was lost at 00:50 hours UTC on February 12th. This was only 3 hours after the balloon was lofted skyward from Katy, Texas, just west of the city of Houston.

Signals were lost when the balloon was passing through the 45,700 feet over the Gulf of Mexico about 110 miles south of Holly Beach, Louisiana. This was possibly the coldest part of the journey to that time with the last telemetry reporting a temperature of -50 degrees Celsius.

There is some speculation that the lack of signals from the balloon may have been caused by the batteries freezing up. There is some hope that a so-called watchdog circuit will keep the electronics package alive until the batteries have rejuvenated, if they ever do.

There was some hope that BLT-28 may have actually crossed the Atlantic Ocean sometime Monday morning, February 13th, but that has yet to be confirmed either visually or by a resumption of electronic tracking. If the APRS transponder does return to life, it should be transmitting on 144.800 MHz and will eventually appear on various world wide APRS tracking websites such as aprs.fi.

BLT-28 was the latest in a long series of high altitude ham radio balloon launches sponsored South Texas Balloon Launch Team. Their website is in cyberspace at www.w5acm.net. (ARNewsline(tm), Southgate, WB5ITT)

**

RADIO LAW: ILLINOIS DISTRACTED DRIVING LAW WONT AFFECT HAM RADIO

Amateur radio as well as 11 Meter CB and several other services have won a complete exemption from a proposed Illinois state law aimed at curtailing the activities of distracted drivers on that states roads and streets. Amateur Radio Newsline's Matthew Chambers, NR0Q, has this follow-up report:

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There were actually two proposed measures before the Illinois state legislature aimed at accomplishing the same thing. As originally written, both House Bill 3972 introduced by Representative John D'Amico and House Bill 3970 by Representative Karen May would have banned the use of all electronic communication devices with a very few limited

exceptions. These were the use of two-way radio by law-enforcement and operators of emergency vehicles; cellphones used in a hands-free or voice-activated mode or in parked vehicles. And that was it.

Now, after consultation with representatives of the Illinois ham radio community, Representative D'Amico has amended his proposal to exclude numerous types of two-way radio based communications from his measure. This, while leaving the original intent of the proposed law aimed which is primeraly aimed at curtailing texting or using a hand-held cellular telephone while ta vehicle is in motion.

Item 7 of the Amended D'Amico measure is the part that's important to the ham radio community. It states that a driver using two-way or citizens band radio services or twoway mobile radio transmitter or receivers for licensees of the Federal Communications Commission in the Amateur Radio Service are exempt from the proposed law. And that's good news for anyone with radio gear in their car driving in or through the state of Illinois.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Matthew Chambers, NR0Q, reporting.

--

While this still leaves House Bill 3970 by Representative Karen May as active as originally written, it's believed that this measure will shortly be amended to follow the House Bill 3970, if this has not taken place already. (ARNewsline(tm), others)

**

BREAKING DX NEWS: LONG AWAITED VK0HI HEARD ISLAND OPERATION CANCELLED

Jim Linton, VK3PC, reports that Chris Dimitrijevic, VK3FY, has announced the permanent cancellation of the 2013 VK0HI Heard Island DXpedition. Linton notes that VK3FY was also the team leader of the cancelled DX0DX Spratly Islands DXpedition. VK3PC was serving as the Publicist for the Heard Island 2013 DXpedition. More DX information later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (VK3PC)

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BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W8HVG repeater serving Southern Michigan.

(5 sec pause here)

**

WITH NEWSLINE: OUR NEW WEBSITE

Amateur Radio Newsline's new website with its all new look is now on-line and fully operational. One of the new features is that from

this week forward that all newscasts will remain on the very front page as an ongoing audio and text blog. This should make it easy for those who may have missed the previous week need not look anywhere else to find it.

Also, the Young Ham of the Year Award and its associated forms now have their own tab at the top of the front page. Click it and you are at the place where you can download the 2012 nominating form as well as learn about the award programs history.

For now, if you find you are having any problems reaching the site, you can use the temporary URL of arnewsline.squarespace.com. This is because it may take up to a week before all the Domain Name Servers around the world have update www.arnewsline.org to the new host.

Lots more changes will be coming soon to make the overall site easier to navigate. Our thanks to Robert Sudock, WB6FDF; Kevin Trotman, N5PRE and Dale Cary, WD0AKO, for spearheading the new design and for the smooth transition to our new web host Squarespace.

Please check www.arnewsline.org and let us know what you think. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

RADIO LAW: FCC SAYS IT WILL SEEK TO CANCEL LIGHTSQUARED PROPOSED BROADBAND NETWORK

The Federal Communications Commission says that it will seek public comment on revoking LightSquared's permit to build a proposed national high-speed wireless data network. This, after concluding that such a system held the potential in some cases jam personal navigation and other Global Positioning System or GPS devices.

According to news reports, the FCC had seen LightSquared's proposal as a way to make more spectrum available to feed the need of the public and industry for added broadband capability for a wide variety of fixed and mobile devices. But the manufacturers of GPS receivers and those who rely on them feared that GPS signals would suffer from adjacent spectrum interference caused by the proposed LightSquared network.

As previously reported here on Newsline, after conducting tests, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration said that it found interference with dozens of personal navigation devices and aircraft control systems that rely on GPS for positioning. The NTIA concluded that there's no way to eliminate the risk of interference with such GPS devices.

As we go to air, LightSquared, which is based in Reston, Virginia, had not made any comment to the press on this latest development.

(PC World Blog, Yahoo News, Bloomberg News, others)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC REDUCES STUDIO TO TRANSMITTER LINK FINE BY $800

The FCC has reduced a fine for Gila Electronics that was based on a studio-to-transmitter link violation two years ago. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Davis, W2JKD, reports:

--

During a September 2009 inspection of KUKY - FM located in Wellton, Arizona, agents discovered what appeared to be a 950 MHz Studio to Transmitter or S-T-L that was relaying KUKY programming's main studio in Yuma to its transmitter site near Wellton.

Gila provided the agents with a copy of the license for the relay station which authorized operation on 956.65 MHz as a Private Operational Fixed Point-to-Point Microwave radio station. The licensed location was listed as Telegraph Pass, Arizona near Wellton but the microwave station was installed at the KUKY studio in Yuma, about 15 miles from the licensed location.

In January 2010, the San Diego Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture for $4,000 to Gila for failing to operate the relay at its authorized location and for providing a private carrier service not in accordance with the rules applicable to its particular radio service.

In its response, Gila had not disputed the facts. However it asked for a reduction because it said there were no interference reports from other licensees nor any substantial potential for interference to other users. This based on the sparsely populated desert terrain.

But the FCC was not persuaded by this argument. It noted that the absence of public harm is not considered a mitigating factor in a rule violation. However, the agency did give Gila a break based on the company's past good behavior, noting that the company has not received a prior violation during its more than 20 year history. That's why it cut the fine by $800.

I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

Gila was given the customary 30 days to pay the fine or to file a further appeal. (FCC)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: HAMS NEEDED FOR BOSTON MARATHON COMMUNICATIONS

Bob DeMattia, K1IW, of the Marathon Amateur Radio Communications group tells Amateur Radio Newsline that his organization is still looking for approximately fifty more volunteers. This, to help on the ham radio team at the Boston Marathon.

This years run takes place on Monday, April 16th. Bob says that positions are available in Hopkinton, along the route, and in Boston

itself. If you are a ham living in that area or plan to be at the event, and if you are interested in volunteering, please visit marc.mmra.org on the World-WideWeb.(K1IW)

**

RADIO READING: BAY AREA RADIO

Arcadia Publishing is set to release "Bay Area Radio," detailing the key events and history of radio in the San Francisco Bay Area. The book highlights some of the area's early events, including Charles "Doc" Herrold's broadcasts in 1909 from his radio school in San Jose to a young NBC settling its West Coast headquarters in 1926.

"Bay Area Radio" was written by noted radio historian John F. Schneider with assistance from the California Historical Radio Society and the Bay Area Radio Museum. It goes on sale March 5.

(RW)

**

RADIO READING: A DOT OF BUTTER AND A DASH OF SPICE FIELD DAY COOKBOOK

And "A Dot of Butter and a Dash of Spice" is a new cookbook dedicated to Field Day culinary delights from UK amateur Steve Norman, M0MVB. In explaining his new work Norman says that as we all need to eat, he has combined his love of doing field day and of food by writing a BBQ cook book aimed at the ham radio operator. "A Dot of Butter and a Dash of Spice" contains over 100 recipes as well as covering what is the best BBQ to take on field days and loads of other help. Priced at ï¿½9.99 British Pounds or $15.75 US dollars, it can be ordered on-line in the United State from Amazon.com and other booksellers. (M0MVB)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: N6SL SAYS QCWA 40 METER CW NET SPPED LOWERED TO 15 WPM

Some names in the news. First up is Ben Russell, N6SL. He says via the Quarter Century Wireless Association's remailer that to encourage more participation the 40 meter QCWA 40 Meter CW Net hat the code speed has been reduced to approximately 15 words per minute. Russell, who is the Net Control Station, says that this net meets every Wednesday evening at 8 PM Eastern Time on 7 point 035 MHz +/- any QRM. Anyone interested in QCWA and its activities is invited to take part. (N6SL via QCWA Remailer)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: JIM LAPORTA, N1CC, NAMED NEW QCWA GENERAL MANAGER

Jim LaPorta, N1CC, of Marbank, Texas, has been selected as the new General Manager of the Quarter Century Wireless Association. He will

assume the position on or about March 26th. LaPorta replaces Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD, who will be terminating his current contract as General Manager on March 31st after seven years in that position. (N0UF)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAPPY 5th BIRTHDAY TO REC.RADIO.AMATEUR.MODERATED

And a big happy birthday shout-out to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Usenet newsgroup which will be five years old this month.

The group was founded on February 22, 2007. It was created as a moderated alternative to the chaotic problems on many of the un-moderated newsgroups of the time. Since then it has become a model that other hobby radio Newsgroups are attempting to emulate.

If you haven't participated on Usenet in a while you might want to take a look at rec.radio.amateur.moderated. Its quite a bit more mature than other hobby groups in the Usenet genre.

As an aside, Amateur Radio Newsline has been distributed on rec.radio.amateur.moderated almost since that Newsgroup was formed and we hope that we helped in some way in the group's long term success. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: SARL LEAP YEAR CHALLENGE

Hams are invited to take part in the South Africa Radio League-sponsored Leap Year Challenge on Wednesday February 29th. The challenge starts at 00:01 and ends at 23:59 South Africa Time. Modes acceptable include phone, CW and digital activity on all bands including HF, VHF, UHF and microwaves.

The objective is simply to make as many contacts as you can on this day. The rules permit you to work a station once only regardless of band, mode or call sign.

Logs go by e-mail to zs4bfn (at) netactive (dot) co (dot) za and must be received by midnight Friday March 2nd, 2012. A South Africa Radio League membership is up for grabs for the log received with the most QSO's made.

Also this reminder: If you do not take part, you will have to wait until 2016 to put the date February 29th into your logbook! (SARL)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur.

>From the United States of America, We are the

Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world

from our only official website at

www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the

volunteer services of the following radio

amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: A SPRAY-ON ANTENNA

Ever found yourself without a signal and wished you could just spray one on like magic? Soon, you may be able to do just that. Michael Grebert, N4OZ is here with more:

--

Chamtech Enterprises, of Sandy, Utah, has developed a sprayon antenna material that it says is more lightweight and energy efficient than current technology.

Revealed at Google's inaugural "Solve for X" symposium, the company says than an antenna can be painted onto almost any surface including trees, walls and even on fabrics.

Chamtech says that it is already talking with governmentbased customers, and as such can't give too much detail on how it works. However it has released information that its material uses organic elements that have the ability to interact with magnetic and radio-frequency fields.

The company's Chief Technology Officer is Rhett Spencer. Spencer is quoted as saying the antenna could increase mobile energy efficiency by 10 percent. Also that it was found to work particularly well under water. Observers at the event say that being organic could make it ideal for subaquatic telecommunications infrastructure.

Prelimnary tests on current a generation cell phone showed that the product was able to boost signals by an impressive 20 dbm when painted over the standard internal antenna.

>From our point of view, for ham radio operators living in antenna restricted areas such as apartments or condominiums, the possibilities of a product such as this could be endless. All a ham might need is a bit of imagination and some of the spray-on antenna paint to get on the air with a signal much stronger than from the rubber duckie on his or her HT.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Michael Grebert, N4OZ, not far from Music City, Nashville, Tennessee.

--

For more information about the Chamtech spray-on antenna material you can take your web browser to www.chamtechops.com. A video with a talk about the technology involved is on-line at tinyurl.com/spray-onantenna. (N4OZ, FutureTech)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ESA FIRST VEGA LAUNCH A SUCCESS

The maiden voyage of the European Space Agency's new Vega launch vehicle has successfully lofted a research satellite along with eight student built microsats into space.

The first Vega launch took place from the ESA spaceport in Korou, French Guiana at 10:00 UTC on Monday, February 13th. The primary payload was the Italian Space Agency's Laser Relativity Spacecraft. Its primary mission is the measurement of the Lense-Thirring effect, also known as frame-dragging. The satellite may also be used for measurements in the fields of Geodynamics and Satellite geodesy.

The secondary payload of the eight student-built MicroSats will transmit telemetry in the VHF, UHF and microwave amateur bands. One of the tiny birds named PW-Sat includes a voice repeater in addition to its telemetry transponder. Its uplink is at 435.020 MHz with its downlink at145.900 MHz. PW-Sat sends its telemetry using1200 baud packet as well as CW on 435.020 MHz. (ESA, AMSAT)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: RUSSIA SAYS RADIATION CAUSED PHOBOS-GRUNT FAILURE

Russia is blaming solar radiation for a computer glitch that doomed its Phobos-Grunt Mars moon mission, but space industry experts cast doubt on the findings of an investigation into the crash of what was to be Moscow's first deep space mission in two decades. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, reports:

--

The Phobos-Grunt spacecraft was stranded in Earth orbit after launch in November and crashed into the Pacific Ocean in January. Russian Space Agency Chief Vladimir Popovkin said that in the opinion of the commission, the most likely reason for the mishap was the local impact of heavily charged space particles that led to a failure in the memory of the main onboard computer in the second stage of flight.

Popovkin went on to say that foreign-made counterfeit or defective microchips were partly to blame for the failure of the $165-million spacecraft, designed to retrieve soil samples from the Martian moon Phobos. He said that a burst of space radiation caused the onboard computers to reboot and go into standby mode.

But others doubt this to be the case. Rather experts on spaceflight say that Moscow was blaming external factors for the loss of its ambitious Mars mission to distract from chronic failings with its

once-pioneering industry.

Alexander Zakharov, was the mission's lead scientist. He has been quoted as saying that even if this was the true which cannot be completely ruled out because it does happen, then there is some kind of problem with the flight system or the programming, which were not designed to guard against space radiation.

Another space industry source said potentially damaging bursts of radiation were highly unlikely in low-Earth orbit, where hundreds of satellites circle within the protective bubble of the planet's magnetic field.

But Russia's State News Agency has cited an industry source of its own. That unnamed source inferred that the critics are incorrect saying it was absurd to think that the PhobosGrunt had not been made to withstand cosmic rays on its two year interplanetary mission.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

The failure of the Phobos-Grunt spacecraft to leave Earth orbit was the latest in a series of mishaps that have plagued Russua's spavce program the past year. (Various published news reports)

**

WORLDBEAT: RADIO AUSTRALIA MAY BE BACK ON THE AIR FROM FIJI

Radio Australia may broadcast again from Fiji. Andy Sennit reports via the Media Network blog that Fiji's coup installed military government has signaled it is looking at allowing Radio Australia to broadcast inside the country again.

Power to the two transmitters, one in Nadi and the other in Suva, was switched off by the interim government in 2009, three years after the 2006 coup led by military commander Frank Bainimarama. But Fiji's permanent secretary of information, Sharon Smith Johns told Pacific Beat's Geraldine Coutts that she is looking at reversing the policy. (Media Network)

**

DX

In DX, Albania will be on the air during the 2012 CQ WPX SSB Contest. This with word that TA1HZ will operate from that nation as ZA1TC for the period of March 23rd to the 26th that includes the contest weekend. During his spare time outside the contest he will try to work some PSK31, especially on 30m band. Details and QSL info is on www.qrz.com.

Lastly, HA5PP will be active from Malta as 9H3PP

on May 26th and 27th during the CQ W W WPX CW

Contest as a SingleOperator Single-Band entry.

Activity outside of the contest will be on 6 and

12 meters, and possibly s 17 meters as well. QSL

via HA5PP.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: COORDINATING THE SUPERBOWL

And finally this week, a tale of frequency coordination to the stars. Not the stars in the sky but those on the football field at this years Superbowl. It's also the story of the part played in the process by a number of Hoosier state radio amateurs. Here's Jack Parker, W8ISH:

--

INDY SUPER BOWL HAMS

Actuality Audio: "Check one two three four.This is about a team an organization.I've just gone from hotel to stadium..It was a great experience oversall."

--

>From mic checks to Manning to Madonna to the man on the street the airwaves around downtown Indianapolis were full of frequencies from over 3500 hundred transmitters. For two weeks prior to Super Bowl 46, and through the game itself, hundreds of radio and television stations were vying for radio spectrum in their efforts to cover the greatest show in professional football.

Keeping interference to a minimum is the job of the Super Bowl Frequency Coordination Committee. It is a team of 46 six, including 17 Amateur Radio operators from central Indiana. Their mission was to log, tag and tune all wireless transmitters from broadcast media from around the world.

As Super Bowl Sunday approached the job of preventing interference became a super task. The Indianapolis Super Bowl village, Lucas Oil Stadium and major hotels are located in a one mile square area. According to one volunteer, that is a lot of RF in a small area.

According to organizers the area of frequency control was expanded on game day stretching out about 30 miles into the suburbs of central Indiana.

The bottom line for all this effort, was to make sure the radio transmitters to each quarterback on the field was interference free throughout Super Bowl 46.

--

Actuality Audio: "Check one two..two..everyones good."

--

Reporting from Indianapolis, I'm Jack Parker, W8ISH.

--

Radio frequency coordination has become an important part of many broadcast sports, but few other than the Olympics require the amount of spectrum as does the Superbowl each year. (W8ISH)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW and I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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45. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-22 07:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1329894001@panix.com>
Source record: 464
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

46. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-22 07:05:00 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1329894300@panix.com>
Source record: 465
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

47. The ARRL Letter for February 23, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-23 20:33:34 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120223201242.B2A932270D@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 466
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

February 23, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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Radio Study
- + On the Air: Republic of South Sudan Assigned Z8 Prefix
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Homebrew Equipment -- and Sea Monsters!
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- This Week in Radiosport
- Silent Key: Bill Simons, W9BB, Silent Key; Developed Shure
Microphones
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + LEGISLATIVE NEWS: PAYROLL TAX BILL INCLUDES PROVISION FOR AMATEUR
RADIO STUDY

A bill that passed both the House and the Senate on February 17 -- and
signed into law by President Obama on Wednesday, February 22 --
includes a provision for a study of the uses and capabilities of
Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster
relief.

Section 6414 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of
2012 mandates the completion of the study, with a report of the
findings to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. This study would
"use the expertise of stakeholder entities and organizations" to
recommend how to best use radio amateurs in emergency communications
```

and disaster relief efforts, and how to best utilize the Amateur Radio Service in coordination with the federal government in these efforts. In addition, the study would also discuss the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations and recommend ways to remove such impediments.

The bill passed in the House by a vote of 293-132. In the Senate, it passed by a 60-36 vote. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/payroll-tax-bill-includes-provision-for-amateur-radio-study>.

==> + ON THE AIR: REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN ASSIGNED Z8 PREFIX

After a wait of more than seven months after being accepted as a member of the United Nations <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-republic-of-south-sudan-is-now-a-dxcc-entity>, the Republic of South Sudan received its prefix block from the International Telecommunication Union <http://www.itu.int/online/mms/glad/cga_callsign.sh?lang=en> (ITU): Z8. On July 14, 2011 -- after South Sudan's admittance to the UN -- the new country became a DXCC entity by way of Section II, 1(a) of the DXCC rules <http://www.arrl.org/rules>. -- Thanks to The Daily DX for the information

==> + ON THE AIR: ONE DOWN, ONE TO GO: THE ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST GEARS UP FOR SSB

With the CW portion <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-2012-arrl-international-dx-cw-contest-takes-to-the-air-next-weekend> of the ARRL International DX Contest <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx> now a series of fading dits and dahs in the memories of participants, preparations for the SSB portion of the DX Contest -- the weekend of March 3-4 -- are already underway.

According to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, for this contest, stations in the US and Canada work only DX stations, and DX stations work only the US and Canada; Alaska and Hawaii are considered DX for this contest. DX stations will be trying to make QSOs with all US states and Canadian provinces. The contest exchange is simple: US and Canadian stations send a signal report and their state or province, while DX stations send a signal report and the amount of power they are transmitting with.

"The CW portion had a lot of twists and turns," Kutzko recounted. "The solar flux index was down considerably from the great conditions we experienced in the last quarter of 2011. We were also dealt a blow with a solar storm on Saturday afternoon, generating some strange phenomena on the bands. Ten meters -- which earlier in the contest season was open to Europe and Asia for hours at a time -- barely showed up this past weekend. Despite all of this, hams worked tons of DX on 15 and even 10 meters."

Will these conditions improve? It's hard to say -- the SFI remains around 100, and just a week before the contest, the A and K indices are reasonably low. "Check the K7RA Solar Update each Friday on the ARRL website for the most current solar forecast," Kutzko advised. "But one thing is for certain: The number of participants in the 2011-2012 contest season has exploded, and more activity means lots of DX."

The ARRL International DX SSB Contest <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx> runs from 0000 UTC Saturday, March 3 to 2359 UTC Sunday, March 4. Complete rules and forms can be found online <http://www.arrl.org/contest-rules>. Electronic logs should be submitted via e-mail <dxphone@arrl.org>; paper logs can be sent to ARRL DX SSB Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Paper logs must be postmarked no later than 0000 UTC Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

==> +HAM RADIO IN HOLLYWOOD: BLOCKBUSTER MOVIE FEATURES MORSE CODE, HOMEBREW EQUIPMENT -- AND SEA MONSTERS!

In the movie Journey 2: The Mysterious Island, Sean Anderson (played by Josh Hutcherson) receives a coded distress signal that comes from a mysterious island where no island should exist. Sean decides to follow the signal with the unwilling assistance from his stepfather Hank (played by Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson).

The movie opens in Dayton, Ohio with Sean on his motorcycle, being chased by police officers. Sean had been caught breaking in to a "satellite facility." When questioned by Hank, Sean confesses that he had received a coded message from his grandfather (played by Michael Caine), but his equipment was too weak to copy it; he decided to go somewhere where there were bigger antennas. The message -- a string of one and two syllable words taken from the books of Jules Verne -- makes no sense to Sean. Hank, a former US Navy cryptographer, offers to help decode the message; he feels this will be a good chance to bond with his stepson.

Immediately, Hank figures out that the message is really in Morse code: each one syllable word is a "dit," while each two syllable word is a "dah." Hank translates the message, which gives clues to the location of the grandfather's whereabouts. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/hollywood-movie-features-morse-code-homebrew-equipment-and-sea-monsters>.

==> + W1AW: MARCH QUALIFYING RUNS

The W1AW and West Coast Qualifying Runs were inadvertently left out of the March 2012 issue of QST. Here is the missing information:

W1AW Qualifying Runs are 10 PM EST Friday, March 9 (0300 UTC March 10) (10-40 WPM) and 7 PM EDT (2300 UTC) Tuesday, March 20. The West Coast Qualifying Run will be transmitted by station K6KPH on 3581.5, 7047.5, 14047.5, 18097.5 and 21067.5 kHz at 2 PM PDT (2200 UTC) Saturday, March 17. Unless indicated otherwise, speeds are from 10-35 WPM. You can find the upcoming schedule here <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>.

==> + SECTION MANAGER WINTER ELECTION RESULTS

Two ARRL Sections -- Eastern Pennsylvania and Louisiana -- will get new Section Managers as of April 1, 2012. Two other Sections -- San Diego and Virginia -- will keep their incumbent Section Managers. Ballots for these races were counted Tuesday, February 21 at ARRL Headquarters. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/section-managers-winter-election-results>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Behind the clouds the Sun is shining <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7b6fBnPmhmc>" Cook, K7RA, reports: We don't know if this is a significant trend, but solar activity has really leveled off recently. Not everyone is unhappy about this: During the recent long minimum, 160 and 80 meter operators were very excited about conditions, and that enthusiasm seems to have increased of late. The average indicators this week were almost exactly the same as last. The average daily sunspot number rose from 55.6 to 55.7, while the average daily solar flux declined 2.6 points to 105. In an unusual coincidence, the average planetary A index and mid-latitude numbers were the same this week as last, 8 and 6.7 The latest prediction shows solar flux at 105 on February 23-24, 100 on February 25, 95 on February 26-29, 100 on March 1-4, 105 on March 5-11, 110 on March 12-13, and rising to 115 on March 14-19. The prediction also sees planetary A index at 8 on February 23, 5 on February 24-28, 7 on February 29, 5 on March 1, 8 on March 2-3, and 5 on March 4-6. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, February 24. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Disney's Cars <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disney_Cars>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- February 24 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 24-26 -- CQ 160 Meter Contest (SSB)
- February 25-26 -- Mississippi QSO Party; North American QSO Party (RTTY); REF Contest (SSB); UBA DX Contest (CW)
- February 26 -- High Speed Club CW Contest; SARL Digital Contest
- February 26-27 -- North Carolina QSO Party
- February 27 -- CQC Winter QSO Sprint

Next week:

- March 3 -- Wake-Up! QRP Sprint
- March 3-4 -- ARRL International DX Contest (SSB) <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>
- March 4 -- DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest
- March 6 -- ARS Spartan Sprint; AGCW YL-CW Party

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> SILENT KEY: BILL SIMONS, W9BB, SILENT KEY; DEVELOPED SHURE MICROPHONES

William A. Simons, W9BB (ex-W9YXJ), passed away in Minnesota on January 2. He was 84. He earned his Class B ticket in 1941 at the age of 14 and converted a cathedral radio into his first transmitter. Later, Simons earned DXCC using homebrew gear of his own design. Eventually, he earned a top spot on the ARRL DXCC Honor Roll. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/bill-simons-w9bb-silent-key-developed-shure-microphones>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- February 25 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/vermont-state-convention-ham-con-2>, South Burlington, Vermont
- March 3 -- ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/santa-clara-valley-section-convention-radiofest>, Del Rey Oaks, California; ARRL South Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-hamfest-2>, Rosenberg, Texas
- March 3-4 -- ARRL Alabama Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-section-convention-birminghamfest-1>, Birmingham, Alabama
- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana-hamfest>, Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest-1>, Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-tm>, Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest>, Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>, Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa

trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine
- April 7 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-1>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 14 -- ARRL Delta Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delta-division-convention-3>, Bartlett,
Tennessee
- April 14-15 -- Communications Academy 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2012>, Seattle,
Washington
- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho;
63rd International DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>,
Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radi
o-electronics-expo-1>,
Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe,
Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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48. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1802 - February 24 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-02-24 13:33:34 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120224100005.0212133C52@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 467
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1802 - February 24 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1802 with a release date of February 24th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. Ham radio could have another new band a few years from now; The Republic of South Sudan gets its callsign block; the FCC asks Congress for more funds in fiscal year 2013 and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration asks for voluntary rather than mandatory compliance by car makers in combating distracted driving from automotive electronics. Find out more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1802 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: A PERMANENT 5 MHZ HAM ALLOCATION TO BE DISCUSSED AT WRC-15

Some more good news out of Geneva, Switzerland. Somewhat overshadowed by last weeks announcement of the approval of a new ham radio band from 472 to 479 kHz at the now concluded WRC-12 comes word that yet another possible new ham radio allocation near 5 MHz. One that could become a reality at the next World Radio Communications Conference to be held in 2015. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the details:

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The band being proposed is from 5.250 to 5.450 MHz. According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, who attended WRC-12, the original proposal came from Cuba.

In the ARRL Letter Sumner is quoted as saying that the International Amateur Radio Union team worked hard to line up support for this item. He said that the factor that worked most in their favor was that at W-R-C 07, a proposal for a 5 MHz agenda item for WRC-12 failed to gain enough support. As such, there was a feeling that the Amateur Service deserved better treatment this time around.

Sumner noted that there was active support from a number of administrations in Latin America which helped a lot, but a lot of others also had to agree to get it on the agenda. The coordinators of future Agenda Items on behalf of the regional telecommunications organizations, such as CITEL and CEPT, eventually agreed on a package of Agenda Items that included this item.

Tim Ellam, VE6SH, is the President of the International Amateur Radio Union. He noted that it always a challenge to have things placed on the agenda for future World Radiocommunication Conferences. As such Ellam says that that he is pleased that we were successful in having an Agenda Item for a potential allocation at 5 MHz on a secondary basis on the agenda.

Ellam does however caution that there will be a lot of work to do over the next International Telecommunications Union study group cycle. He adds that there is much appreciation is owed to the International Amateur Radio Union and the national delegation teams in Geneva for their hard work on this issue.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, near Pittsburg Pennsylvania.

--

The permanent 5 MHz amateur band proposal will be Agenda Item 1.4 at WRC-15. More about it and the rest of what took place at the 2012 conference is on line at the ARRL website. A direct link to the story is at tinyurl.com/wrc-2012-wrapup. (ARRL)

**

RADIO LAW: REPUBLIC OF THE SOUTH SUDAN AWARDED Z8A TO Z8Z CALL SIGN BLOCK

The International Telecommunication Union has announced the official callsign allocation prefix block for the newly crated nation of the Republic of South Sudan will be Z8A through Z8Z. The Republic of South Sudan joined the United Nations on July 14, 2011 at which time it became the 193rd member of that august world body. (Facebook DX Forum)

**

RADIO FUNDING: FCC ASKS $346,000,000 BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

The Federal Communications Commission is asking Congress for more money to ramp up its operations including enforcement. Its also talking new license fees. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the details:

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The FCC has asked Congress to approve a 2013 fiscal year budget of $346 million. That compares to an approximate $6 million increase over the approximate $340 million the agency received for fiscal year 2012.

If approved as is by Congress, there would be 141 new FCC staff members, bringing the total to 1,917 over the current 1,776. The number of full-time staffers at the Media Bureau would increase from 197 to 213. The Enforcement Bureau would go from 276 to 299 and the Office of Engineering & Technology would increase from the current 81 to 87 staffers.

Part of the money would also be used for eight new vehicles and to replace obsolete signal analysis equipment with new direction-finding and wireless monitoring gear in existing vehicles. These are the mobile units that field agents use to detect unauthorized transmissions and resolve interference issues.

The commission would also have new authority to set user fees on un-auctioned spectrum licenses as a spectrum management tool. Fees would be phased in over time to determine the appropriate application and the monetary amount.

The FCC tentatively plans to begin levying such fees sometime this year, and estimate those could total $4.8 billion through 2022. Its unknown if such licensing fees would or even could be applied to Amateur Service, FRS or 11 meter Citizens Band operations. The latter two would be highly unlikely due to the non-licensed nature of operations on those bands. Amateur Radio is already bringing in a profit through the Vanity Callsign program.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

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The agency's budget request is part of President Obama's total budget submission of $3.8 trillion for fiscal year 2013, which begins October 1st. (RW)

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RADIO FUNDING: BROADCAST BOARD OF GOVERNORS SUBMITS REDUCED BUDGET

The United States Broadcasting Board of Governors which oversees government supported broadcasts to other parts of the world has sent its 2013 fiscal year budget request to congress. The $720 million request is lower than its 2012 budget and includes program, transmission and staffing reductions at the Voice of America, Office of Cuba Broadcasting, Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia and the Middle East Broadcasting Network. Four broadcast language services are proposed for elimination including both Greek and Chechen. The 2013 request also calls for another $21 million in cuts in administrative and technical support services costs across the agency and of the board itself.

But what's not going into on the air operations has another destination. Referring to the so called new media, the 2013 budget request contains $9 million in increases for elevated social media and building out the agency's digital infrastructure. It also asks for $11.6 million in fighting Internet censorship.

The Broadcasting Board of Governors estimates the five government funded civilian broadcast networks it oversees currently reach 187 million people each week. Its 2013 budget request contains an overall 4 point 2% decrease over current spending levels that the Board hopes

will be enough to meet the approval on Capitol Hill in this era of extreme economic austerity. (B&C)

**

COMMUNICATIONS LAW: NHTSA PROPOSES VOLUNTARY ANTI DISTRACTED DRIVING GUIDELINES

Ham radio operators and other two-way radio users can breathe a proverbial sigh of relief. At least for now. This with word that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration will not seek mandatory regulations regarding what types of technology controls will be placed on auto makers to help thwart distracted drivers. Instead they are issuing voluntary guidelines to the auto makers as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK.

--

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has proposed voluntary safety guidelines for auto manufacturers, including a recommendation that they design dashboards so that distracting devices are automatically disabled unless the vehicle is stopped and the transmission is in park.

The guidelines, which are directed at passenger cars and sport utility vehicles, would exempt safety devices such as electronic warning systems that alert drivers to potential collisions or lane changes. GPS and other navigation devices that provide directions also would be permitted while driving, but the safety administration is asking that the systems be designed so drivers can't manually enter a destination unless the car is in park.

Other dashboard technologies recommended for automatic disabling include text-messaging, Internet browsing, social media browsing, phone dialing and computer screen messages of 30 characters or more that are unrelated to driving.

The guidelines would make exceptions for these devices if they are designed only for use by passengers and can't be accessed or seen by the driver. Also there is no mention of any cutoff to external power receptacles such as cigarette lighters which are used by many hams, CB'ers and G-M-R-S operators to power low-power two way transceivers.

David Strickland is the groups Administrator. He told the press that while his agency recognizes that manufacturers want to build vehicles that include the tools and conveniences expected by today's American drivers, that the guidelines they are proposing would offer real-world guidance to automakers. Also that it would help them develop electronic devices that provide features consumers want without disrupting a driver's attention or sacrificing safety.

Manufacturers also are urged to take steps to improve the safety of technologies that drivers are allowed to use while driving. That

includes reducing to two seconds or less the amount of time drivers must divert their eyes from the road to use a device. Devices should be designed so drivers don't have to use more than one hand or glance through extraneous information.

According to Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, one reason National Highway Traffic Safety Administration decided to pursue voluntary guidelines instead of mandatory rules is that officials wanted to do something quickly. He noted that the process for writing federal rules often takes years to complete.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, near Zion Illinois.

--

The final impact these new guidelines on the ability of hams to permanently install after-market two way radio gear in their vehicles will not be known until the new designs appear in car showrooms. And that's likely several years away. (NHSTA release, other published reports)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WD0FFV repeater serving Colorado Springs Colorado.

(5 sec pause here)

**

YHOTY: NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2012 AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE YOUNG HAM OF THE YEAR

The nominating season for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open.

Created in 1986, this award is offered to recognize the accomplishments of a radio amateur age 18 or younger for his or her accomplishments in service to the nation, his or her community or to the advancement of the state of the art through amateur radio.

Nominees must reside in the United States 50 states or its possessions or in any of the 10 Canadian provinces.

As in years past, Yaesu USA will transport the winner to the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville , Alabama, where the award will be formally presented. Yaesu will also provide Hotel accommodations as well as convention tickets and a prize of amateur radio equipment to the winner. CQ Magazine will again treat this year's recipient to a week at Spacecamp-Huntsville. Heil Sound Ltd. will be presenting this year's winner with an additional prize. Amateur Radio Newsline will present

the winner with the official Young Ham of the Year Award plaque which again this year is underwritten by Dave Bell, W6AQ, of DBA Entertainment in Hollywood, California.

If for some reason the person selected is unable to travel to the Huntsville Hamfest, Amateur Radio Newsline will attempt to arrange a special award ceremony where the recipient resides, such as at his or her school or amateur radio club.

Please note that the prizes given to the recipient are second in nature to the actual Young Ham of the Year Award. All nominations and materials required by the official rules must be received by ARNewsline before May 30, 2012.

Complete details, rules and a required nominating form in Adobe .pdf format are available on our website at www.arnewsline.org/yhoty. Nominating forms can also be obtained by sending a self addressed stamped envelope to Amateur Radio Newsline Inc., Young Ham of the Year Award, 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350.

Please note tat all nominating forms and support materials become the property of the Amateur Radio Newsline and cannot be returned.

Again the cutoff date for nominations is May 30, 2012. Nominating forms are on-line at www.arnewsline.org/yhoty. (ARNewsline(tm))

**
ENFORCEMENT: FCC WANTS ANSWERS ABOUT WISCONSIN FM TRANSLATOR

The commission's Media Bureau wants answers from Radio Power Inc. about W250BN, a translator on 97.9 MHz in Wisconsin. The translator started out in the city of Beloit is now living on the air in West Allis. This after a series of moves in the last two years. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, is in Reno, Nevada, where Power Radio has its headquarters:

--

Last November the Milwaukee Free Radio Group wrote to the FCC, calling Radio Power's actions in relocating its translator from site to site a preconceived scheme to move a translator a distance of 69 miles from Beloit to Milwaukee. It insinuated that Radio Power was trying to accomplish this by using minor changes so as to circumvent the requirement to wait for a window for filing a major change.

Now the FCC is acting. Peter Doyle is the chief of the FCC's Audio Division of the Media Bureau. He has sent what is described as a strongly worded, certified letter to Radio Power in Reno, Nevada. In part the letter states that the Media Bureau is investigating potential statutory and rule violations and related instances of potential misrepresentation and/or lack of candor on the part of Radio Power Inc. Specifically, it is alleged that the licensee abused commission processes by effectuating a major change in the facilities of Station

W250BN, now licensed to West Allis, Wisconsin by a succession of serial minor change applications.

The FCC told Radio Power to answer its questions within 30 days. It wants to know if Radio Power had a reasonable assurance that the specified sites would be available for the intended use. It demanded a copy of all documents relating to the securing of reasonable assurance of site availability; and it wants to know the precise length of time during which the licensee broadcast from each of the facilities.

The FCC also wants a copy of any documents relating to the station's operation for each of the locations The FCC also wants to know the precise length of time during which the station was silent for more than 30 days, and why.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

The FCC also wants to know what community the licensee of W250BN ultimately intends to serve, the primary station it intends to rebroadcast along with copies of all documents relating to the relocation of the station away from the city of Beloit. (FCC, RW)

**

RADIO LAW: CONGRESS TO INVESTIGATE FCC OVER LIGHTSQUARED FAST TRACK

The FCC appears to be on the hot seat with congress over the way its been handling the entire matter of the licensing of LightSquared's proposal to create its high speed Internet service in spectrum adjacent to that used by the Global Positioning System or GPS.

In an e-mailed press statement, Iowa Senator Charles Grassley who has been investigating the FCC's interactions with LightSquared, said that the agency put this project on a fast track for approval with what appears to have been completely inadequate technical research. As a result, Grassley is blocking two Obama administration Commission nominees until he gets more documents about the matter from the FCC.

Now the House of Representatives is also about to look at the LightSquared matter. Oregon Representative Greg Walden, W7EQI, chairs the House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. He has said that he plans a hearing on how the agency's handling of the LightSquared application for its broadband network led to a year of dispute. (Published reports)

**

ENFORCEMENT: SOME PEOPLE DO NOT LEARN THE FIRST TIME

>From the some people never learn file comes a story you may find hard to believe. It's about a person to who after being accused of running an unlicensed station and then paying a reduced fine apparently went

right back on the air again. Jim Damron, N8TMW, reports:

--

ENFORCEMENT: FCC ISSUES A FLURRY OF FLORIDA FINES

There's been a lot of unlicensed radio station fines issued by the FCC's Enforcement Bureau to Florida residents in recent weeks.

The Commission has issued a new $25,000 Notice of Apparent Liability against Whistler Fleurinor of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. This for allegedly operating an unlicensed transmitter on 99.5 MHz in 2011.

The agency says that it raised the fine by $15,000 over the base amount because Fleurinor continued operating an illegal station on the same frequency from the same commercial property after he was issued an earlier fine of $20,000. In that instance, the FCC lowered the penalty to $500 based on Fleurinor's proof of inability to pay the higher assessment.

In issuing the new forfeiture order the FCC noted that the fact that Fleurinor had again committed the same violation, and did so multiple times after he had already been found to be in serious violation in the first N-A-L. It said that this action by Fleurinor demonstrated not only the egregiousness nature of the violations, but also his deliberate disregard for the Communications Act and for the FCC's rules.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, reporting.

--

Fleurinor was given the customary 30 days to pay the fine or to file an appeal. If he does the latter and basses his appeal on his inability to pay, it will be very interesting to see the FCC's response this time around. (FCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: W7W CELEBRATES ARIZONA STATEHOOD CENTENNIAL FEB 25

Arizona's Superstition Amateur Radio Club will be operating a special event station W7W on February 25th as in the city of Mesa. This is the annual celebration of The Lost Dutchman Mine story at the museum in Apache Junction. It is also in observance of the Arizona Statehood Centennial . More information can be found on line at WB7TJD.org. (K2DFE)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: SEVHFS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN

Registration is now open for the 2012 Southeastern VHF Society Conference slated for Charlotte, North Carolina, from April 20th to the 21st. The meeting will feature technical programs, noise figure and

antenna gain testing, banquet prizes, vendor displays, and an equipment auction. ARRL President Kay Cragie, N3KN, will be the banquet speaker. A downloadable registration form in Adobe .pdf format is on-line at tinyurl.com/southeastern-vhf (WA2ODO, VHF Reflector)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: IOTA DINNER AT THE INTERNATIONAL DX CONVENTION

The 17th annual Islands on the Air or IOTA Dinner will be held in conjunction with the 63rd annual Visalia International DX Convention on Friday evening April 20th. The venue will be the Plaza Room of the Holiday Inn Hotel on Airport Drive in Visalia, California

This dinner is open to all who are active in the Islands on the Air program or who just want to see beautiful pictures of far away islands. Also, as at previous IOTA dinners, admission is free for those wishing to watch the programs without dining but paid attendees will receive priority seating.

At this time, buffet service is set for 50 attendees. The cost is $33 per person. Reservations must be prepaid by April 10th and go to Ray Benny, N6VR, 462 South Reed Road, Chino Valley, Arizona, 86323.

More about this years International DX Convention is on-line at dxconvention.org. (IOTA)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: ZL1TGC ASCENDS TO NZART PRESIDENCY

Some names in the news: First up is Vaughan Henderson, ZL1TGC, who has assumed the presidency of New Zealand's national society, the NZART. This following the resignation of Roy Symon ZL2KH on Monday, February 20th.

According to a press release, Symon had served as NZART President for the last three years and was completing his last term. He was due to finish at the 2013 Annual General Meeting where he had planned to hand over to his successor. Instead he tendered his resignation to the NZART citing personal reasons.

In accordance with the organization's constitution, ZL1TGC who was serving as Vice-President became the new President. The NZART Executive Council will now have to elect a new Vice-President. (NZART)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: WA6ILE AND KG6YPI TO SPEAKER MONTEREY RADIOFEST

Back in the United States, Scott Avery, WA6LIE and Brandon Hansen, KG6YPI will be guest speakers at the New Ham Forum at his years Radiofest being held in Monterey, California, on March 3rd. The two will be discussing remote radio operations and its applications. More information is on-line at www.raiofest.org. (WA6LIE)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: D-STAR COMES TO NAMIBIA

D-Star is truly going places where it has never been before. This with word that radio amateurs in Windhoek, Namibia now have their own D-Star repeater operational and on the air.

Reportedly, the biggest challenge to getting the system operational was obtaining a stable data connection to the internet. This was solved with a 3G connection and the help of the biggest cellular telephone service provider in Namibia.

Right now the system is at a temporary low level location. According to V51JP, the Repeater will be moved to its final site as soon as everyone is satisfied that it is performing correctly. V51JP also says that he thanks DL1YBL and DL5DI for their assistance in getting the new D-Star repeater up and running.

More about this new D-Star system in Namibia is on-line www.qsl.net/narl. (V51JP)

**

WORLDBEAT: QF RADIO TO SWITCH FORMATS ON FM

QF Radio will launch an all-English broadcast on 91.7 FM in Quatar. The station is an operation of the Qatar Foundation, a social and educational foundation based in Qatar. It delivers its programs across all segments of society by means of on-air broadcasts, the Internet, smart-phones and other developing technologies. In addition to music and news, the station airs programs for students, featuring cultural and scientific issues. The station will also switch to an all Arabic format on 93.7 FM, where it currently airs a mix of Arabic and English-language programming. (MN)

**

WORLDBEAT: ITU ENACTS NEW RULE TO STOP SATELLITE JAMMING

The International Telecommunication Union has called upon the world's nations to take all 'necessary actions to stop intentional interference with satellite transmissions. The change in regulations, which was approved at the just concluded World Radiocommunication Conference came after numerous complaints that international satellite TV programs in

the Persian and Arabic languages were suffering from deliberate interference.

The new rule says that administrations shall ascertain the facts and take the necessary actions when they encounter jamming. What actions these might be were not spelled out in the document.

The two satellite operators that have been targeted are Eutelsat and Arabsat. They claim that the jamming signals originate from Iran and Syria. The interference, which has increased since September, 2011, has affected numerous broadcasters including programming from the British Broadcasting Corporation, Germany's Deutsche Welle, and RFE's Radio Farda.

Joining in backing the revised ITU anti-jamming rule to fight this willful and malicious interference to satellite transmissions were Radio Netherlands Worldwide and the European Broadcasting Union. (MN)

**

WORLDBEAT: PHILIPPINE ARC CELEBRATES GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

The Philippine Amateur Radio League is celebrating its Golden Anniversary in 2012. To commemorate this milestone the organization is sponsoring an on-the-air operation that will award a special commemorative certificate to hams world-wide who make contact with its members.

Also throughout 2012 the club will be operating with the special event call sign of 4G0LD. QSL information along with the rules to qualify for the Golden Anniversary award can be found at www.dx1l.dxhams.net/Awards.htm (DU1XX, NZART)

**

RADIOSPORTS: SARL DIGITAL CONTEST FEBRUARY 26

>From the Radiosports file comes word that the first in the series of South African Radio League sponsored digital contests will be held on Sunday, February 26 from 13:00 to 16:00 UTC with PSK and RTTY activity on 80, 40 and 20 meters. The exchange is a simple R-S-T report and a serial number starting at 001. Stations maybe contacted twice per band, once on PSK and once on RTTY. Other contests date will be announced in the future. More is on-line at www.sarl.za. (SARL)

**

HAM TECHNOLOGY: COLORADO 6 METER BEACON BACK ON FREQUENCY

Dave Clingerman, W6OAL, reports that the Colorado 6 meter beacon is back up and running on its published frequency of 50.065 MHz. The beacon had gone into wander mode for a few days after a suspected crystal oven failure had it sliding around its normal operating frequency.

According to W6OAL, a spare local oscillator unit can sometimes come in handy. Installing it apparently was the fix. Dave adds that beacon reports are appreciated whenever the band is open. (VHF Reflector)

**

DX

In DX, word that W5JON will once again be active as V47JA from his vacation home at Calypso Bay, St. Kitts from February 28th through March 28th. His activity will be on 80 through 6 meters using SSB. While on the island he plans to operate during the ARRL International DX Contest on March 3rd and 4th and the CQ WPX SSB Contest March 24th through the 25th. ALL QSL's to W5JON either direct

ON4AVT will be on the air as C5AVT from Gambia from February 28th to March 20th. He will be active mostly on 15 meters using the digital PSK mode. QSL via home call.

G3SWH and G3OLU will be operational from western Swaziland as 3DA0PW through February 29th. Their main objective is to work as many European and North American stations on as many different bands as possible and hope to make at least 15,000 QSOs. QSL via G3SWH, either direct, via the bureau or using the facility on www.g3swh.org.uk.

Members of the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society and the 9M4SDX Team will be active as 9M0L from Pulau Layang Island from April 10th to the 24th. If you work them QSL direct to 9M2TO either direct or via the bureau to Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter's Society. More details will be forthcoming shortly.

DF7ZS, will be on the air from Aruba stroke P4 from P40V's QTH between March 21st to the 27th. Activity will be casual but he will operate during the CQ WPX SSB Contest using the callsign P41P. QSL P4/DF7ZS via DF7ZS. QSL P41P via W3HNK.

Nine members of the 'A DX Group' will be active from Coloane Island between May 17th and the 23rd. Operations will be on 160 through 6 meters, including the 30, 17 and 12 meter bands. Modes used will be CW, SSB and RTTY. There will be at least three stations on the air at the same time on different bands and modes. The group's callsign will not be announced until the beginning of their operations. QSL via EB7DX, direct or by the Spanish Bureau. All QSO's will be confirmed electronically via Logbook of the World.

Lastly, DL1NL will be operational portable OA4 from Lima, Peru, until early March. His activity is only in his spare time on 160-10 meters CW, with some SSB, from the Radio Club Peruano station. QSL via DL1NL, either direct or via the bureau. No electronic QSL's are accepted by this station.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: THE AMPLION SPEAKER FROM 1926 VIDEO

And finally this week, the history of the early 20th century Amplion loudspeaker is a story told in a recently released video by Trilith Films in the United Kingdom. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with more:

--

Titled "A Tale Retold" the video tells the story of UK radio amateur Frank Marshall who in 1998 told Trilith pictures about a collection of old motion picture films that had been stored under his workbench for decades. He thought that among them might be one film he had particularly enjoyed as a boy. It was an advertisement for an early loudspeaker called the Amplion. One that had been used in local cinemas in the 1920's and by his father's pioneering radio business on the Isle of Portland.

When rescued from the pile of rotting nitrate film it was discovered that the film entitled "The Tale of the Amplion" was a here to fore unknown work by the famous illustrator William Heath Robinson. It is almost certainly the only animated cartoon that Robinson ever made.

The tale is retold by Frank Marshall who preserved the film, Gerry Wells of the Vintage Wireless Museum in London and Geoffrey Beare of the William Heath Robinson Trust. Included is the film as it originally appeared but with a especially composed musical sound track created by composer Stephen Deutsch.

A very interesting 20 minutes indeed.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

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This video was shot and edited by John Holman for Trilith and now appears on Transition Vision's Heritage Channel. Its available for world-wide viewing on-line at YouTube. It can be found at tinyurl.com/amplion. (Southgate, ARNewsline(tm), others)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DE, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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49. The ARRL Letter for March 1, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-01 20:20:01 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120301195739.B61CA22387@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 468
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

March 1, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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Award
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ON THE AIR: ARRL PUBLISHES NEW GUIDELINES FOR 60 METERS

Thanks to the FCC's Report and Order
<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-releases-new-rules-for-60-meters> issued
November 18, 2011, radio amateurs will enjoy a number of new privileges
on the 60 meter band, beginning at midnight (EST) March 5. These new
privileges include a boost in effective radiated power from 50 to 100
W, as well as the ability to use CW and certain digital modes.

Late last year, the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee surveyed 60
meter operators to gather opinions about how to best use the new
privileges. On the subject of creating a specific band plan, the survey
results indicated little consensus beyond the fact that 5403.5 kHz
should retain its status as a de facto "DX channel." On the other hand,
survey respondents made a number of suggestions for general operating
practices.
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Based on the survey results and subsequent research, the committee declined to propose a specific band plan for 60 meters at this time. Instead, the committee created a "Recommended Practices" document (click here <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Regulatory/Recommended_Practices_for_60_Meters%20-%20Version%206_4.pdf> for the document). The 60 meter pages <http://www.arrl.org/60-meter-faq> on the ARRL website have been updated to reflect the changes brought about by the Report and Order.

The April issue of QST will also include an article by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, offering a detailed discussion of the new 60 meter privileges and recommended operating practices.

==> + W1AW: W1AW VIDEO TOUR AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

In case you missed the live web tour of W1AW <http://www.arrl.org/news/save-the-date-take-a-virtual-tour-of-w1aw-on-february-12>, the Hiram Percy Maxim Station at ARRL Headquarters, you can now watch the 18 minute video on the ARRL website. On February 12, W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, led Emmy Award-winning meteorologist Geoff Fox, K1GF, on a tour of the famed station. Al Petrunti, KA1TCH, of the New Day Group <http://www.newdayhd.com/> followed Carcia as he led Fox and viewers through the station, recording it for viewers to watch.

"We wanted viewers of this live Internet tour to feel as if they are actually at W1AW," Carcia explained. "If you came to W1AW in person, you would see the same things that we showed on the virtual tour: The three operating stations, the transmitter racks that we use to send out our bulletins and use for the code practice transmission, the control console and 'Old Betsy <http://www.arrl.org/images/view/web_008.jpg>,' Hiram Percy Maxim's personal spark gap transmitter."

You can view the video of the tour <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw> on the ARRL website (scroll to the bottom of the page).

==> + DXCC NEWS: MALYJ VYSOTSKIJ ISLAND ADDED TO DXCC DELETED ENTITIES LIST

According to the Finnish Ministry of Transportation and Communication, the Saimaa Canal Treaty between Finland and Russia has been finalized by relevant Finnish and Russian authorities through ratification. Malyj Vysotskij Island (MVI), R1M, is no longer included in the Treaty. Thus, MVI was deleted from the DXCC List as of February 17, 2012, and added to the DXCC Deleted Entities List. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/malyj-vysotskij-island-added-to-dxcc-deleted-entities-list>.

==> +ARRL ANNUAL AWARDS: NOMINATIONS FOR ARRL AWARDS NOW OPEN

Each year, the ARRL Board of Directors has the opportunity to select recipients for a number of awards in various categories that honor Amateur Radio operators. The nomination period is now open for the ARRL

awards that are designed to recognize educational and technological pursuits in Amateur Radio, as well as an award to honor a young Amateur Radio operator. ARRL members can nominate hams for the Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award, the Hiram Percy Maxim Award, the ARRL Microwave Development Award, the ARRL Technical Service Award, the ARRL Technical Innovation Award and the Knight Distinguished Service Award. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/nominations-for-arrl-awards-now-open-1>.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of February -- takes a look the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference, a new law that has a provision for an Amateur Radio study, new rules for 60 meters, happenings at W1AW, a new movie that features Amateur Radio, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-43>.

==> + W1AW: MARCH QUALIFYING RUNS

The W1AW and West Coast Qualifying Runs were inadvertently left out of the March 2012 issue of QST. Here is the missing information:

W1AW Qualifying Runs are 10 PM EST Friday, March 9 (0300 UTC March 10) (10-40 WPM) and 7 PM EDT (2300 UTC) Tuesday, March 20. The West Coast Qualifying Run will be transmitted by station K6KPH on 3581.5, 7047.5, 14047.5, 18097.5 and 21067.5 kHz at 2 PM PDT (2200 UTC) Saturday, March 17. Unless indicated otherwise, speeds are from 10-35 WPM. You can find the upcoming schedule here <http://www.arrl.org/qualifying-run-schedule>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "The dawn of the great black Sun that shines on me <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OooxwBrIzsA>" Cook, K7RA, reports: In tomorrow's K7RA Solar Update, we'll have a review of recent sunspot number averages. The average daily sunspot number for the month of February 2012 was 50.1, the lowest since January 2011, when it was 32.2. The average daily sunspot number for the three months ending on February 29, 2012 was 83.3, the lowest since the three months ending in September 2011, when it was 79.6. This is a three month moving average, so there is a figure for every month that includes data from the two previous months. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, March 2. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by The Alarm's Black Sun <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Alarm>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- March 3 -- Wake-Up! QRP Sprint
- March 3-4 -- ARRL International DX Contest (SSB)
<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>
- March 4 -- DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest
- March 6 -- ARS Spartan Sprint; AGCW YL-CW Party

Next week:

- March 10 -- AGCW QRP Contest
- March 10-11 -- Idaho QSO Party; EA PSK63 Contest
- March 11 -- North American Sprint (RTTY); SKCC Weekend Sprint
- March 11-12 -- Wisconsin QSO Party
- March 14-15 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> + SILENT KEY: FORMER RAC PRESIDENT EARLE SMITH, VE6NM (SK)

Earle Smith, VE6NM, of Grand Prairie, Alberta -- who served as President of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) from 2004-2007 -- passed away Friday, February 24. He was 81. An active radio amateur since 1948, first licensed as VE1SA, Smith enjoyed meeting amateurs from all over Canada and the world. "Earle was well respected by Amateur Radio operators both within Canada and internationally," said current RAC President Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW. "He was a gentleman and friend to all hams and a strong advocate for Amateur Radio and for the Radio Amateurs of Canada. All who knew Earle respected him as a leader, a friend and a force for good in the Amateur Radio community. We will miss him." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/former-rac-president-earle-smith-ve6nm-sk>.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: PHIL SALAS, AD5X , WINS FEBRUARY QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for February is Phil Salas, AD5X , for his article "A Relay-Based Full Break-In TR Switch for Your Vintage System. " Congratulations Phil! The QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll> . Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the March issue today.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- March 3 -- ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/santa-clara-valley-section-convention-radiofest

>,
Del Rey Oaks, California; ARRL South Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-
hamfest-2>,
Rosenberg, Texas
- March 3-4 -- ARRL Alabama Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-section-convention-birminghamfest-1>,
Birmingham, Alabama
- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana
-hamfest>,
Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest
-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-t
m>,
Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest
>,
Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine
- April 7 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-1>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 14 -- ARRL Delta Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delta-division-convention-3>, Bartlett,
Tennessee
- April 14-15 -- Communications Academy 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2012>, Seattle,
Washington
- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho;
63rd International DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>,
Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radi
o-electronics-expo-1>,
Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe,
Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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50. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1803 - March 2 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-02 10:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120302100003.BEF7D33C6C@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 469
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1803 - March 2 2012

CLOSED CIRCUIT ADVISORY:

The following closed circuit advisory is not necessarily for air. With some words about our new website presence and the latest from the Newsline Support Fund here's our producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF:

--

By now you have probably noticed that amateur Radio Newsline has a new look on the World Wide Web. Candidly, this was not planned but came about because our old web host notified us that they were leaving the shared server web hosting business by the end of February. We had to act fast and thanks to three people: Robert Sudock, WB6FDF, Dale Cary, WD0AKO and Kevin Trotman, N5PRE, the move was accomplished in less than two weeks. For this I thank them very much. But the move was not without financial cost to Amateur Radio Newsline. We had thought we would be OK through the end of May but that's no longer the case. So we are coming to you a bit earlier to ask your assistance in keeping these newscasts on the air. You ca make a donation on-line by clicking on the Pay Pal button on our website home page or by sending a donation to the address you will here at the end of this weeks newscast. Either way, we at the Amateur Radio Newsline thank you for your ongoing support. I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF. Now this weeks newscast.

--

Thank you Bill. Now, amateur Radio Newsline report number 1803 with a release date of Friday, March 2nd, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. Bad batteries may have lead to the loss of communications of a ham radio balloon from Texas to China. Also, Australia begins an evaluation program to see if its hams should be granted a power increase to a full kilowatt; Hams in Senegal to get access to 6 meters; M V Island is deleted from the DXCC and the role of social media in times of emergency reporting. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1803 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO NEAR SPACE: BAD BATTERIES MAY HAVE CAUSED BLT-28 FAILURE

Failure of the batteries that powered the ham radio payload of a high altitude balloon that was designed to float from Texas to China seems the likely cause of a total communications failure with the near space project. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, K-B-3-T-Zed-D, is here with the rest of the story:

--

The South Texas Balloon Launch Team lofted the high altitude scientific balloon experiment known as BLT-28 on February 11th from near Katy, Texas. The balloon was supposed to rise to over 100,000 feet and float for several days and hopefully reach its target of Nanjing, China. But as reported here on Newsline, contact was lost with the balloons APRS tracker just south of the Louisiana coast at an altitude of 45,763 feet.

Andrew MacAllister, W5ACM, is part of the group that launched BLT-28. In a note to Lloyd Colston, KC5FM that was forwarded to Newsline, McAllister says that right now the highest probable failure mode was the batteries that powered the electronics payload on BLT-28.

W5ACM notes that the power supply was made up of commercial 1.5 volt lithium cells. According to post flight experiments, MacAllister says that several of the same type of batteries were put directly on some dry ice where they went from 1.5 volts down to two tenths of a volt. And when warmed up, they did not return to normal output.

MacAllister speculates that it could have been that cold just after reception of the last packet message from BLT28. He notes that the temp sensor system was not guaranteed below minus 40 degrees Celsius.

MacAllister confirms that there will be a second attempt to float a balloon from Texas to China, but first up will be a test flight of the thermal insulating system for the batteries and payload. W5ACM speculates that should happen sometime in May.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, Im Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD,near Pittsburg, PA.

--

W5ACM indicates that if all goes well in May, that another attempt to fly a balloon from the United States to China could happen before years end. (South Texas Balloon Launch Team, KC5FM)

**

RADIO RULES: AUSTRALIA'S ACMA AND WIA IN STUDY TO SEE IF VK HAMS SHOULD HER 1KW POWER LIMIT

Advanced class ham radio operators in Australia are being invited to take part in a study to see if it is possible to raise the power limit down-under to a full kilowatt. This as the Australian Communications and Media Authority, better known as the ACMA publishes details of the trial of higher power transmitter output on its website. Michael Owen,

VK3KI, is the President of the Wireless Institute of Australia:

--

The ACMA has published on its website details of the trial of higher power transmitter output for Advanced amateur radio licensees.

The trial will commence on 1 March 2012 and will continue until 31 August 2013.

The ACMA has advised the WIA that the 18 month authorization is intended to provide the ACMA with time to evaluate the success of the trial after a 12 month period and to consider permanent regulatory arrangements, if warranted, while avoiding dead air between the evaluation time and the implementation of permanent arrangements, if appropriate The paper is in the part of the ACMA site dealing with amateur matters and is an information paper.

A brief article also appears on the Engage part of the ACMA website, where anyone can record their comments.

--

The Wireless Institute of Australia Board of Directors has cautioned those hams considering obtaining a higher power permit that this is only a trial. As such, if problems do emerge, it could affect whether amateurs down-under will permanently continue to be able to use the higher power. In particular, if interference is caused to others, the WIA advises that the VK radio amateur involved must immediately do whatever it takes to stop the interference, and must resolve the problem. (WIA News)

**

RESTRUCTURING: HAMS IN SENEGAL TO GET 6 METERS

Six meters is coming to Senegal. This with word from its national ham radio society that following its application to the Regulatory Agency for Telecommunications and Posts, the band 50 to 51 MHz has been officially allocated to that nations amateur service on a primary basis. This allocation becomes effective when the new ITU Radio Regulations come into force. Therefore any contacts made on 6 meters before that date have to be considered as unauthorized. (6W7RT)

**

DXCC NEWS: MV ISLAND DELETED FROM THE DXCC ENTITY LIST

As of February 17th, Malyj Vysotskij Island, better known as MV Island in ham radio circles has been deleted from the D-XC-C. This after an announcement by the Finnish Ministry of Transportation and Communication that the Saimaa Canal Treaty between Finland and Russia has been finalized and that MV Island is no longer included in it.

For amateur radio this means that M V Island was deleted from the DXCC and added to the Deleted Entities List. Also that the entry level for DXCC Honor Roll number has dropped to 331.

We will have more DX news later on in this weeks newscast. (N1CL)

**

RADIO RULES: ARRL PUBLISHES NEW RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 60 METERS

With new privileges on the 60 meter band beginning March 5th, the ARRL announced some new "Recommended Practices" for operating on that band.

These new suggestions are based on survey results and subsequent research. The committee evaluating the new 60 meter rules declined to propose a specific band plan at this time, but instead created a "Recommended Practices" document now available in .PDF format at tinyurl.com/arrl-sixtymeters

Also, look for the April issue of QST magazine to include an article by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. It will offer a detailed discussion of the new 60 meter privileges and recommended operating practices for that band. (ARRL)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ARISS CELEBRATES 700th ISS TO SCHOOLROOM CONTACTS

A milestone for manned ham radio operations from Earth orbit. ARISS Operation Team Mentor Charlie Sufana, AJ9N reports that the total number of Amateur Radio on the International Space Station or ARISS sponsored ISS-to-Earth school events has passed the 700 mark.

The 700th school contact was with the Academy at Shawnee City in Louisville, Kentucky. It took place via telebridge with ON4ISS on February 14. The special John Glenn event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Perth Australia's, City of Lights on February 20th marked event number 701.

For those hams not aware. ARISS offers an opportunity for students in schoolrooms to experience the excitement of amateur radio by talking directly with crewmembers on-board the International Space Station. Further information on the ARISS program is available at www.ariss.org. (ARISS)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the N5YYU repeater serving Clinton, Arkansas.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN REPORTING EMERGENCIES TO THE PUBLIC

"Emergency Management Without Social Media.Fail" is the title of a very interesting op-ed article by author Tim Burrows posted across several social media websites. In it, Burrows looks at both the positive and negative effects on the public that social media can have in accurately disseminating and updating information of a disaster, accident or other event that the public needs to know. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has more:

--

The scenario Tim Burrows writes about involves a railroad accident that took place on February 26th. That's when a VIA Rail Canada train en route from Niagara Falls to Toronto was involved in a derailment that occurred in the Burlington, Ontario area. Official news reports say that the three engineers riding in the cab of the locomotive were killed. There were no fatalities among the 75 passengers but 45 were injured.

Burrows article details the role of the mass media along with the self involvement of individuals in putting out news bulletins regarding the accident, many of which were not properly vetted before being released into cyberspace. He notes that while there was an incredible amount of information flying around there was no "voice of authority" speaking. He also takes note that official media sources were also quoting unsubstantiated sources such as one outlet that quoted an emergency agency from another jurisdiction.

On the other hand, Burrows praised several VIA Rail employees who used Twitter to keep accurate information flow of the accident even though they were being chided at on Twitter because the system suffered delays. Burrows said that even though they had just lost three members of their working family they answered everyone professionally and systematically.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

Whether you agree or disagree with Burrows assessment of the role of social media in regard to the accuracy of the information being made public, his article is a very interesting evaluation for anyone involved in the world of emergency communications. This being especially true during events where no official JIC or Joint Information Center is available. You can read the entire story on-line at tinyurl.com/emergency-social-media. (Wordpress.com, Facebook)

**

RESCUE RADIO: MA TOWN SEEKS STANDBY RESCUE RADIO ASSISTANCE FROM LOCAL HAMS

Yet another city has discovered the value of having trained ham radio operators as a part of its emergency communications plan. This as community leaders in Arlington, Massachusetts, announce that they are seeking radio amateurs willing to help the town with its emergency response network.

In a statement issued to the press, officials say that they're looking for ham radio operators to become volunteers and help out in case the town's communications systems was to stop working during an emergency. Arlington used a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to buy a ham radio gear for emergencies. Any Massachusetts ham living in the area who is interested in volunteering should contact Fire Chief Robert Jefferson by e-mail to rjefferson(at)town(dot)arlington(dot)ma(dot)us. (Arlington Partch, eHam.net)

**

RESCUE FROM RADIO TOWER: NAKED CLIMBER REMOVED FROM ATOP LOS ANGELES RADIO TOWER

>From the believe it or not file comes the story of a naked man atop a downtown Los Angeles radio tower who was wrapped in a blanket and lowered to safety by a makeshift pulley system on Wednesday night February 8th.

The unidentified tower climber was believed to be in his 30s or 40s and possibly an Arizona resident. It was unclear why he climbed the 220 foot high structure, which is part of a city personnel building just west of downtown L.A..

Witnesses say that he removed items of clothing after he began scaling the tower about 4 p.m. Pacific time just prior to sundown. His rescue went without incident after he asked to be given some MacDonalds hamburgers.

The mission which involved a heavy presence of Los Angeles Fire Department personnel was completed at about 9:45 Pacific Standard Time. Police said that the man will not be charged with a crime and his name will not be released. (LA Times, LA Weekly, others)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC ISSUES A PAIR OF UNLICENSED OPERATION FINES IN FLORIDA

The FCC has issued a $20,000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Monetary Forfeiture to Florida resident Robens Cheriza. This, for operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 107.3 MHz from his residence in West Palm Beach.

In this case the FCC says that it received an interference complaint from the Federal Aviation Administration about illegal transmissions reported by its control tower at the Palm Beach International Airport. The FCC traced the transmissions on 107.3 MHz to Cheriza's residence

and said they saw an FM transmitter connected by coax to the transmitting antenna.

Cheriza admitted operating the station for about a month and said he knew that was illegal. On the night when the airport experienced interference, Cheriza told agents he had broadcast a party from his home.

Also, Mercius Dorvilus received the base fine of $10,000 for operating a station illegally on 92.7 MHz in Pompano Beach, Florida. He told a detective from the Broward County Sheriff's Office that he bought and installed the gear in his rented room and that he was responsible for operating the transmitter. The FCC, citing Florida business records, said Dorvilus is doing business as "Radio Vision FM 927, Inc." and has registered the domain name, www.visionfm.org.

Both Cheriza and Dorvilus were given the customary 30 days from the date of the issuance of the fines to either pay or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

COMMUNICATIONS LAW: FCC ADOPTS RULES TO STRENGTHEN CONSUMER PROTECTIONS AGAINST UNWANTED TELEMARKETING ROBOCALLS

The FCC has again slapped the hand of telemarketers to further protect consumers from unwanted autodialed or prerecorded calls, often referred to as robocalls.

On February 15th the Federal Communications Commission on approved changes to its telemarketing rules to combat unwanted telemarketing calls and texts which were consistently in the top three consumer complaint categories at the FCC in 2011.

The FCC says that robocalls invade consumers' privacy, and can, in the case of calls to wireless numbers, use up their minutes. The new rules reduce regulatory uncertainty with minimal burden on industry and maximize consistency with those of the Federal Trade Commission.

Specifically, the rules protect consumers by requiring telemarketers to obtain prior express written consent from them, including by electronic means such as a website form, before placing a robocall to a consumer. The new rules also require that telemarketers provide an automated, interactive "opt-out" mechanism during each robocall so that consumers can immediately tell the telemarketer to stop calling. They also strictly limit the number of abandoned or "dead air" calls that telemarketers can make within each calling campaign.

On the other side, the revised rules also ensure that informational calls, such as those related to school closings and flight changes, continue to be available to consumers who wish to receive them. (FCC)

**

RADIO POLITICS: COMMITTEE FOR US BROADCASTING OPPOSES BBG FY 2013 BUDGET PLAN

The Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting has blasted the recent Broadcasting Board of Governors budget proposals for Fiscal Year 2013 that we reported on last week.

The Committee says that it is outraged by the proposal to cut and reduce Voice of America English and foreign language programs and positions. It also takes issue with reductions to programs and positions at Radio Free Asia and at other U.S. government-funded international broadcasting entities managed by the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

The Committee for U.S. International Broadcasting is a private nonprofit interest group focusing on broadcast and news distribution. Its website is located in cyberspace at www.cusib.org. (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: HAMRADIONOW - THE ORLANDO INTERVIEWS

Some names in the news this week. Gary Pearce KN4AQ is releasing a series a videos shot at the Orlando HamCation in mid-February. This, as a part of his Ham Radio Now series that features interviews with the true movers and shakers of the hobby in the 21st century.

His latest release includes a very in depth interview with CQ Magazine editor Rich Moseson W2VU. In it Pearce talks to him for almost an hour about how CW is faring now that it's no longer required; about the CQ family of magazine's new digital option, and a little about ham radio video production.

This video is titled Ham Radio Now Episode 2: The Orlando Interviews. More about this new series is on-line at arvideonews.com. (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: THE ERIC JAMIESON INDIAN OCEAN AWARD CREATED IN VK

And the Wireless Institute of Australia Board has accepted the offer of Eric Jamieson, VK5LP, to sponsor awards for first amateur radio contacts on the two meter band spanning the Indian Ocean between Australia and Africa. There will be three honor give. One each for voice, for CW and for the digital modes. As one might expect this program will be known as the Eric Jamieson Indian Ocean Awards. More on this is on line at www.wia.org.au. (WIA News)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: LIGHTSQUARED ANNOUNCES LAYOFFS FOLLOWING FCC DECISION AGAINST ITS NETWORK

LightSquared Inc. the wireless company whose controversial plan to operate in spectrum adjacent to that used by the space-based G-P-S navigation system says that it plans to lay off nearly half of its

employees to save money. In a press release, the company said it will cut 45 percent of its 330 employee workforce and called the move a necessary cost savings measure to ensure the long-term success of the company.

As previously reported, the Federal Communications Commission dealt the company a severe blow when it said it would revoke permission for LightSquared to move ahead with its wireless network. This, after tests found that it would interfere with Global Positioning Systems used by the military, the airlines and the general public. (Published news reports)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: PASNASONIC TO RELEASE TEXT TO SPEECH TV

Panasonic plans to release a new line of televisions in March with text-to-speech capabilities. This according to a podcast from the UK-based show Early Edition.

On the netcast, Panasonic's Nigel Prankard is quoted as saying that users will be able to obtain channel information, browse the user guide, and use the built-in electronic program guide among other features.

He went on to explain that the company felt it was the right time to include accessibility features and that Panasonic planned to include it in all models. This based on the company stating that a user shouldn't be limited in the choice of a television by which ones included accessibility features.

Apple is credited in part for proving the technology could be added without much additional cost. This initial release of these new televisions sets appears to be targeted toward the UK market. No word when these sets will be released world wide. More information is on-line at tinyurl.com/first-accessible-tv. (KC9RP via Insight Radio)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMATEUR RADIO CELEBRATES JOHN GLENN OVER PERTH AUSTRALIA

50 Years of anticipation all worked out on the day that Australia and the world celebrated John Glenn's orbit in Friendship 7 over the city

of Perth on Monday, February 20th. And ham radio was an important part of the event. Onno Benschop, VK6FLAB, reports:

--

We had John Glenn, the Premier of WA, the Lord Mayor of Perth, Lyn Beazley the WA Chief Scientist and many other dignitaries on hand to celebrate. We even managed to squeeze in some David Bowie and a video on how to become an astronaut.

The crowds filled the Northbridge Piazza and much anticipation culminated at 10:24 UTC. Orbital calculations all worked out and the International Space Station made it across the horizon. There were some chilling seconds when Mike was calling from Honolulu, but in the end, the contact was a great success.

Of course, an event like this could not have been possible without a little help from some friends, Captain Dan Burbank on the International Space Station, the WA State Records Office, the WA Museum, the City of Perth, ARISS, NASA and the Hills Amateur Radio Group.

A full credit list is being prepared on the Hills Amateur Radio Group website, but two people require a special mention, Tony VK5ZAI the Australian ARISS mentor and Meg VK6LUX who energetically kept the multitude of interested parties moving along making it all possible.

We managed to get Amateur Radio into the news on ABC Online, ABC radio and local television, who knows we might pick up some more amateurs along the way.

Alex VK6FLOL and Donald VK6PDS scored a place in history as prize winners for the contact.

I'm Onno Benschop, VK6FLAB

--

By way of background, on February 20, 1962, John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth in the Friendship 7 spacecraft. On this mission, Glenn flew over Perth and the people of Perth turned on their lights to acknowledge his mission. Glenn observed that the city was visible from space and Perth become known worldwide as the City of Light. (WIA News)

**

WORLDBEAT: RSGB ATTEMPTS TO HARMONIZE 5 MHZ ALLOCATION

The RSGB report that it has received an offer from the primary United Kingdom user of 5 MHz, which is the Ministry of Defense aimed at working with the British ham radio community on band access issues.

As has been reported earlier the Ministry of Defense was unable to meet an RSGB request for access over a continuous range but has offered a number of small frequency blocks. These include all of the present 3

kHz wide channels.

The new offer is quite complex and the RSGB's view is that it need to seek input from members and non-members of the UK amateur community as to how it responds. As such the RSGB announced that it would be launching what it calls a second "Litmus Test" discussion entitled "New 5 MHz NoV proposals".

The details of the offer and a draft response from the RSGB should have been uploaded to www.rsgb.org/consultations by March 1st. (GB2RS)

**

ON THE AIR: TARC REMEMBERS THE APRIL 2011 TUSCALOOSA TORNADO VICTIMS

On the air, the Tuscaloosa Amateur Radio Club will be operating special event station W4XI on April 28th from 11:00AM to 5:00PM local time. This in remembrance of the 44 people that died when an F-4 tornado struck that city on April 27, 2011.

Operation will be from the top of the western parking deck at Druid City Hospital Regional Medical Center in Tuscaloosa. The operating frequencies will be 7.270 and 14.270MHz, +/- any QRM. The club will also have a RTTY station in the data portion of both the 40 and 20 meter bands. QSL information is on the club website at www.w4kcq.org. (N4EDT)

**

ON THE AIR: THE IRTS CELEBRATES ITS 80th ANNIVERSARY

The Irish Radio Transmitters Society is now celebrating its 80th anniversary and is on the air with the special callsign EI80IRTS. An attractive certificate sponsored by Dundalk Amateur Radio Society will be available to all who make contact with the station. More details are on-line at www.ei7dar.com/ei80irts.html. (IRTS)

**

DX

In DX, JI3DST, will be on the air signing portable 9M2 from West Malaysia between 0000 UTC on March 10th and 0900 UTC on March 11th. His activity will be on 80 through 6 meters including most of the WARC bands. Modes to be used will include CW, SSB and FM. QSL via JI3DST.

DJ0IF and SP7VC will be on the air from Madeira Island through the 7th of March signing portable CT9. QSL via their home callsigns.

F6ITD will operate SSB and digital modes on the HF bands from Guadeloupe until 13th of March. QSL via his home callsign, either direct or via the bureau.

Lastly, K5LBU, VE7MID, VE7DS and N5JR will be

active from the Lotsane Safari Lodge in Botswana

between March 18th and the 27th. The group

plans to be active in the CQ World Wide WPX SSB

Contest from March 24th to the 25th as A25HQ.

They will have three radios and both a log

periodic and wire antenna covering 160 meters

and up. More details in future Amateur Radio

Newsline reports.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: NASA SHUTS DOWN LAST MAINFRAME

There was a time when IBM's mainframe computers were the cutting-edge machines for scientific and engineering calculations. Now, for NASA that's all come to an end. Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has the details:

--

The day of the giant mainframe computer began in the 1960s, when IBM's System 360 rewrote the rules of computing and before humans walked on the moon. When NASA acquired two of the then super-speed System 360 Model 95 mainframes in 1968, IBM touted the machines' mathematical abilities.

But February marked the end of the era in NASA computing. This as the space agency powered down its last IBM Z9 mainframe that was located at Marshall Space Flight Center.

Linda Cureton is a Chief Information Officer who once programmed a System 360 mainframe in assembly language at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. She is quoted as saying that mainframes are really not so bad and they have their place. She notes that things like virtual machines, hypervisors, thin clients, and swapping are all old hat to the mainframe generation though they are new to the current generation of what she termed as cyber youth.

But for many in the industry, mainframes had become so burdened with a reputation for a bygone era of computing that they became synonymous with dinosaurs. To counter this IBM fought back, boosting performance, adding new technology. The company succeeded in that these newer mainframe systems remain a fixture in some corners of the computing industry.

In the old days, mainframes were the size of several large rooms. Today these units are only the size of a refrigerator. And even though NASA has shut down its last one, there is still a requirement for mainframe capability in many other organizations.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

By comparison with days gone bye, today's fastest mainframe supercomputers can perform 10.5 quadrillion calculations per second. (NASA, Science OnLine)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD saying 73 from Vero Beach Florida and we thank you for listening.

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51. Auxiliary Communications System (ACS)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-04 18:41:49 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <jj0d17$b4m$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 470

I've just found out about a major change within the Emergency Communications network of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, and that this new system is being implemented nationwide as an alternative to RACES in disaster communications.

I'm writing about the Auxiliary Communications System (ACS), and I have a whole lot of questions about it and about RACES and ARES and how they fit - or don't - in the new system.

First, though, I need information about the new system, and where I can find out about it. I haven't seen any mention of it prior to the March ARRL Section Newsletter I read this morning.

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

52. Re: Auxiliary Communications System (ACS)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-04 19:11:33 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <kbrc29-5e1.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 471

>I've just found out about a major change within the Emergency
>Communications network of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency,
>and that this new system is being implemented nationwide as an
>alternative to RACES in disaster communications.
>
>I'm writing about the Auxiliary Communications System (ACS), and I have
>a whole lot of questions about it and about RACES and ARES and how they
>fit - or don't - in the new system.
>
>First, though, I need information about the new system, and where I can
>find out about it. I haven't seen any mention of it prior to the March
>ARRL Section Newsletter I read this morning.

California has had an ACS program in place for some years now.
There's some overview information available at

http://w3.calema.ca.gov/WebPage/oeswebsite.nsf/Content/5D650F1E7361391E88257450005FB620?OpenDocument

As I understand it, ACS is intended to be a broad-scale incorporation
of volunteer communicators and communication technology, into a
state's emergency communications infrastructure. It can incorporate
CERT groups using FRS and GMRS, volunteers using the internet or fax
machines, satellite radio systems, etc. - not just amateur radio, as
RACES does. ACS communicators need not have amateur radio licenses,
unless they are actually using amateur radio for communications during
an ACS drill or event activation.

In my city and county, the same people who manage RACES are also in
charge of ACS (they wear multiple hats, as it were). We sometimes do
our drills under the aegis of a RACES activation, but if we're
incorporating non-hams into the exercise or if we're doing more than
two county drills per year we will do an ACS activation instead (ACS
is not constrained to the "two drills per year" rule which applies to
RACES training exercises).

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

53. Re: Auxiliary Communications System (ACS)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-04 23:37:05 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <48u7l716cpfu639ahv9o9fbc2foee3unqi@4ax.com>
Source record: 472

On Sun, 4 Mar 2012 14:11:33 EST, dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt)
wrote:

>>I'm writing about the Auxiliary Communications System (ACS), and I have
>>a whole lot of questions about it and about RACES and ARES and how they
>>fit - or don't - in the new system.
>>
>>First, though, I need information about the new system, and where I can
>>find out about it. I haven't seen any mention of it prior to the March
>>ARRL Section Newsletter I read this morning.
>
>California has had an ACS program in place for some years now.

Cal ACES was the Midsummer's Night Dream (I'm being circumspect in a
family-oriented group) of a maverick named Stan Harter who somehow got
himself appointed as the state's Emergency Communications Director
back in the 1980s after he messed up that function in the state of
Hawaii. He never heard of "use the resources within the system" and
decided that he and his hand-picked henchfolk knew more about
emergency communications that anyone else in the state if not the
world. He drove the professionals in public safety and even broadcast
(EBS) nuts trying to deal with him and his occasional skirting the
edge of FCC regulations. Needless to say, he had nothing to do with
RACES because we were "outsiders" to his world and made ACES the
competition. Stan is long since deceased and the two factions have (I
hope) reconciled but the mere mention of ACES drives some of us nuts
remembering its origins.

Oregon has a program that at one time was modeled on the California
program but because we have a strong integrated ARES/RACES team setup,
OR-ACES has adopted the role of setting standards and providing
training for volunteers in emergency communications, not only for
ARES/RACES, and has redesignated the acronym as Auxiliary
Communications Emergency Solutions. I have taken their course and it
is excellent.

'Nuff said.....
---

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

54. Re: Auxiliary Communications System (ACS)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-05 03:17:06 UTC
From: John Davis <wa8yxm@gmail.invalid.com>
Message-ID: <jj0v9v$n2m$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 473

On 3/4/2012 2:11 PM, Dave Platt wrote:
>> I've just found out about a major change within the Emergency
>> Communications network of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency,
>> and that this new system is being implemented nationwide as an
>> alternative to RACES in disaster communications.
>>
>> I'm writing about the Auxiliary Communications System (ACS), and I have
>> a whole lot of questions about it and about RACES and ARES and how they
>> fit - or don't - in the new system.
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>> First, though, I need information about the new system, and where I can
>> find out about it. I haven't seen any mention of it prior to the March
>> ARRL Section Newsletter I read this morning.
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> California has had an ACS program in place for some years now.
> There's some overview information available at
>
> http://w3.calema.ca.gov/WebPage/oeswebsite.nsf/Content/5D650F1E7361391E88257450005FB620?
OpenDocument
>
> As I understand it, ACS is intended to be a broad-scale incorporation
> of volunteer communicators and communication technology, into a
> state's emergency communications infrastructure. It can incorporate
> CERT groups using FRS and GMRS, volunteers using the internet or fax
> machines, satellite radio systems, etc. - not just amateur radio, as
> RACES does. ACS communicators need not have amateur radio licenses,
> unless they are actually using amateur radio for communications during
> an ACS drill or event activation.
>
> In my city and county, the same people who manage RACES are also in
> charge of ACS (they wear multiple hats, as it were). We sometimes do
> our drills under the aegis of a RACES activation, but if we're
> incorporating non-hams into the exercise or if we're doing more than
> two county drills per year we will do an ACS activation instead (ACS
> is not constrained to the "two drills per year" rule which applies to
> RACES training exercises).
>

Having spent 25 years + as a Police dispatcher, And in one case
resolving a situation entirely via Ham Radio (A disable ham who I happen
to know personally was broke down on the road and needed a tow truck,
Normally we would just transfer the call but in his case..
Communications impaired,, I had the ability to understand him so had to
translate for the tow truck. Got him all towed away)

I know the value of good communications.. Often the BEST comm is via ham radio.. However for short range stuff.. Other services work well too.

I can imagine a situtation (Imagine,,, Heck, been there done that) where there would not be enough hams or police either, and the need to enlist "Civilian" help could be handy.. With FRS and GMRS types, one ham can be in say 20 places at one time... Provided they are close enough.

But than that is why my motor home is part porcupine.

2mtr, 70 cm and CB (2 of each, though the CB antennas are hidden, short range) FRS (hand held) GMRS when I next renew the license (not likely soon) Cellular, including a cell "Extender" type repeater, and then there is the long wire for the main box when parked.

--
Nothing adds Excitement like something that is none of your business.
Remove the invalid part to email me.

55. Can pasta-inspired radio waves could unclog the wireless world?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-06 15:49:19 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <jj56li$d81$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 474

I came across this story today, and I'd appreciate hearing other hams' opinions as to whether this is possible. TIA.

Bill, W1AC
- - - - -

Pasta-inspired radio waves could unclog the wireless world

Agence France-Presse
6:39 am | Saturday, March 3rd, 2012

WASHINGTONï¿½Radio waves that move like pasta spirals could help unclog the wireless world by boosting the power of radio communications, Italian and Swedish researchers said Friday.

The new way to make radio signals more potent without boosting bandwidth is described in the Institute of Physics and German Physical Societyï¿½s New Journal of Physics edition of March 2.

ï¿½In a three-dimensional perspective, this phase twist looks like a fusillli-pasta-shaped beam,ï¿½ lead study author Fabrizio Tamburini was quoted as telling the science website PhysOrg.

ï¿½Each of these twisted beams can be independently generated, propagated and detected even in the very same frequency band, behaving as independent communication channels.ï¿½

That means they do not move linearly like all current forms of radio communications do, and they do not need more bandwidth to increase their transmission capacity.

http://technology.inquirer.net/8897/pasta-inspired-radio-waves-could-unclog-the-wireless-world

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

56. Re: Can pasta-inspired radio waves could unclog the wireless world?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-06 16:52:46 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <ljccl75350remb5o6g7nl1ckueuqajh56k@4ax.com>
Source record: 475

On Tue, 6 Mar 2012 10:49:19 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> wrote:

>I came across this story today, and I'd appreciate hearing other hams'
>opinions as to whether this is possible. TIA.
>
>Bill, W1AC
>- - - - -
>
>Pasta-inspired radio waves could unclog the wireless world
>
>Agence France-Presse
>6:39 am | Saturday, March 3rd, 2012
>
>WASHINGTONï¿½Radio waves that move like pasta spirals could help unclog
>the wireless world by boosting the power of radio communications,
>Italian and Swedish researchers said Friday.
>
[snip]

Sounds like circular polarization.

In an infinite void, right-hand and left-hand circular polarized waves
can occupy the same frequency and not interfere very much (depends on
the opposite-hand isolation in the antennas).

However, whenever a circularly-polarized wave reflects off something,
the handed-ness reverses.

In a real enviroment (city with buildings, mountanous terrain, even
flat earth because of ground reflections) there will not be any
increase in info capaacity.

Dick Grady, AC7EL
To respond to me privately, email to:
<My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

57. FCC Daily Digest 03/06/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-06 17:52:38 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-515884-2012.03.06-12.07.22--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 476
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 44 March 06, 2
012

[...]

MICHAEL W. PERRY. Issued a monetary forfeiture in the amount of $450 to
Michael W. Perry for operating a CB radio transmitter without the requisite
authorization and failure to operate a Citizens Band station in conformity
with the Rules. Action by: Regional Director, South Central Region, Enfor
cement Bureau. Adopted: 03/06/2012 by Forfeiture Order. (DA No. 12-340).
EB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-340A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-340A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-340A1.txt

[...]

58. The ARRL Letter for March 8, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-08 21:30:34 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120308203741.713792137E@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 477
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**************************************

March 8, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE
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- + Dayton Hamvention®: Dayton Hamvention Honors QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, with Technical Achievement Award
- + On the Air: New 60 Meter Privileges Now in Effect
- On the Air: ARRL Seeks Comments on Proposed 9 cm Band Plan
- + Propagation News: Active Sunspot Region 1429 Produces Solar Flares, Coronal Mass Ejections
- + Don't Be Fooled: Check out the April Issue of QST
- + FCC News: FCC Reduces Forfeiture for Florida Man Accused of Using Unauthorized Equipment
- ARRL Annual Awards: Nominations for ARRL Awards Now Open
- Solar Update
- + DXCC News: Four Operations Approved for DXCC Credit
- This Week in Radiosport
- + Enter the Seventh Annual ARRL Photo Contest!
- New QuickStats Poll Now Available on ARRL Website
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

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+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.
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==> + DAYTON HAMVENTION®: DAYTON HAMVENTION HONORS QST TECHNICAL EDITOR JOEL HALLAS, W1ZR, WITH TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

On March 6, the Dayton Hamvention® Awards Committee announced the recipients of Hamvention's four annual awards. QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, was named the winner of the Technical Achievement Award. The recipient of the Amateur of the Year is S. Suri, VU2MY. Steven Betza, WZ2V, was selected as the recipient of the Special Achievement Award. The Deutscher Amateur Radio Club -- Germany's IARU Member-Society -- was selected as the Club of the Year. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/dayton-hamvention-honors-em-qst-em-technical-editor-joel-hallas-w1zr-with-technical-achievement-awar>.

==> + ON THE AIR: NEW 60 METER PRIVILEGES NOW IN EFFECT

As of March 5, US amateurs have new privileges on the 60 meter band. In addition to an increase in effective radiated power from 50 to 100 W, hams can now transmit CW and PSK31 on the following channel-center frequencies:

- Channel 1: 5332.0 kHz
- Channel 2: 5348.0 kHz
- Channel 3: 5358.5 kHz
- Channel 4: 5373.0 kHz
- Channel 5: 5405.0 kHz

Amateurs can also transmit USB voice and PACTOR III on the following suppressed carrier frequencies (the frequencies typically shown on transceiver displays):

- Channel 1: 5330.5 kHz
- Channel 2: 5346.5 kHz
- Channel 3: 5357.0 kHz
- Channel 4: 5371.5 kHz
- Channel 5: 5403.5 kHz

For more information, please see 60 Meter Operations -- New Privileges and Recommended Practices <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Regulatory/Recommended_Practices_for_60_Meters%20-%20Version%206_4.pdf>, published <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-publishes-new-guidelines-for-60-meters> by the ARRL HF Band Planning Committee. A revised ARRL band chart <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Hambands_color.pdf> is also available. Watch for the article "New Privileges on 60 Meters" by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, in the April 2012 issue of QST.

==> ON THE AIR: ARRL SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 9 CM BAND PLAN

A few months ago, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee asked the Amateur Radio community about current, planned and projected uses of the amateur bands between 902 MHz and 3.5 GHz. The response was beyond our expectations, with hundreds of comments and suggestions received. Thanks to all of you who took the time to share information with us. After reading the feedback, the committee began working on the band plans; the first draft plan ready for review is for the 9 cm band (3300-3500 MHz). Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-comments-on-proposed-9-cm-band-plan>.

==> + PROPAGATION NEWS: ACTIVE SUNSPOT REGION 1429 PRODUCES SOLAR FLARES, CORONAL MASS EJECTIONS

This week has been an active week for our Sun. An X-1.1 class solar flare erupted from the Sun on March 4 at 11:13 PM EST (0413 UTC March 5), sending an explosion of plasma and charged particles -- a coronal mass ejection (CME) -- hurtling through space. Forecasters at NOAA's

Space Weather Prediction Center are saying that this CME should miss Earth, but it will hit Mercury and Venus. Then on March 6 at 7:28 PM EST (0028 UTC March 7), the Sun released a solar flare, the strongest one this year. The X-5 class flare hurled another CME into space, but it is too soon to tell if this is an Earth-directed flare. This activity is coming from sunspot 1429, which is currently making its way around the northern hemisphere of the Sun.

Sunspot 1429 -- which emerged on the Sun on March 2 and is estimated to be at least four to five times larger than Earth -- is slowly turning to face Earth, so if any such eruptions do occur, they are increasingly likely to be geoeffective.

When a CME hits the Earth's atmosphere -- approximately 72 hours after exploding on the Sun -- the low bands will be depressed and signals will be weaker the lower the frequency. The absorption rate will be most severe on 160 meters, less on 80 and somewhat better on 40 meters. The maximum usable frequency (MUF) -- the highest frequency at which a radio wave can propagate between given terminals by ionospheric propagation alone, independent of power -- will be lower and auroral propagation on the VHF bands is quite possible.

When aurorae occur, the electrons hit the ionosphere at the North and South geomagnetic poles, creating ionization. Waves that would normally travel off into space are bouncing off the aurora and being redirected back toward Earth. This can create opportunities for long-distance propagation via VHF and UHF. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/active-sunspot-region-1429-produces-solar-flares-coronal-mass-ejections>.

==> + DON'T BE FOOLED: CHECK OUT THE APRIL ISSUE OF QST

This April issue of QST remembers the wireless heroes of the RMS Titanic and the SS Carpathia 100 years ago, and also takes readers on a voyage to the South Orkney Islands for the VP8ORK DXpedition -- and more. So set aside a couple of hours, grab a beverage and get ready to have some radio fun with the April issue of QST.

In 2011, the Third Annual ARRL Homebrew Challenge presented the toughest challenge to date. In 2006, we asked readers to build a 5 W PEP 40 meter sideband and CW transceiver. In 2009, we upped the ante, looking for a 50 W linear amplifier to go along with the transceiver. For 2011, we challenged hams to come up with a single or multiband transceiver for 6 and/or 10 meters. Find out who walked away with the honors in "Homebrew Challenge III - And the Winner Is..." by QST Technical Editor Joel R. Hallas, W1ZR.

Eric Keerbs, AD7HM, discovers a way to let your radios talk to your computer using an interface converter in his article "Level Converter to Allow Full Control of Peripherals by Computer or Radio." In "A Transceiver-to-Amplifier Interface," Ed Toal, N9MW, presents an interface that you can use to safely switch your older linear amplifier

from your new transceiver. Paul Danzer, N1II, takes a look at window line and standing wave ratio in his article "Balanced Line SWR Measurement."

It's been 100 years since the RMS Titanic -- heralded as "unsinkable" -- struck an iceberg and sank to the bottom of the Atlantic, taking 1511 passengers and crew with it. Retired US Coast Guard Reserve Commander Richard Paton takes a look at the tragedy -- with a focus on Jack Phillips and Harold Bride, the two Marconi wireless operators on the Titanic -- in his article "Radio's Role in the Titanic Disaster." The "Vintage Radio" column profiles the wireless operator aboard the rescue ship, the SS Carpathia.

The VP8ORK DXpedition to the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula saw seals, dolphins and big pileups. Join Michael Mraz, N6MZ, as he recounts the Microlite Penguin DXpedition to the South Orkney Islands in "South of Sixty South." Make plans to join the ARRL and the ARRL EXPO at the 2012 Dayton Hamvention and the 2012 ARRL National Convention in California. Find out all you need to know about these two headlining events in "ARRL EXPO 2012 -- Save the Dates" by ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R.

NCJ Managing Editor Rick Lindquist, WW3DE, takes a look at the ICOM IC-9100 MF/HF/VHF/UHF transceiver in this month's Product Review. He says the rig is "compact and versatile. The IC-9100 handles almost any type of operating on the 160 meter through 2 meter bands, plus 70 and 23 cm."

Of course, there are the usual columns you know and expect in the April QST: Happenings, Hints & Kinks, The Doctor Is In, Short Takes, How's DX and more. Look for your April issue in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC REDUCES FORFEITURE FOR FLORIDA MAN ACCUSED OF USING UNAUTHORIZED EQUIPMENT

In November 2011, the FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture in the amount of $10,000 to Michael Perry of Cross City, Florida. In a Forfeiture Order released on March 6, the FCC reduced the forfeiture that Perry must pay to $450. Perry was accused of operating a radio transmitter without the requisite FCC authorization and his failure to operate a Citizens Band station, "willfully violat[ing]" Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended and Sections 95.409 (by operating an unlicensed and non-certificated CB transmitter) and 95.411 (by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter with two amplifiers) of the FCC's rules. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-reduces-forfeiture-for-florida-man-accused-of-using-unauthorized-equipment>.

==> ARRL ANNUAL AWARDS: NOMINATIONS FOR ARRL AWARDS NOW OPEN

Each year, the ARRL Board of Directors has the opportunity to select recipients for a number of awards in various categories that honor Amateur Radio operators. The nomination period is now open for the ARRL awards that are designed to recognize educational and technological pursuits in Amateur Radio, as well as an award to honor a young Amateur Radio operator. ARRL members can nominate hams for the Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award, the Hiram Percy Maxim Award, the ARRL Microwave Development Award, the ARRL Technical Service Award, the ARRL Technical Innovation Award and the Knight Distinguished Service Award. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/nominations-for-arrl-awards-now-open-1>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "If we can make it through the night we will see the Sun <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiCuxOL7Ag4>" Cook, K7RA, reports: This has been quite a week for dramatic solar activity: The average daily sunspot number was up nearly 26 points to 69.4, while the average daily solar flux rose nearly 17 points to 121.9. The latest forecast has solar flux at 140 on March 8-9, 135 on March 10-11, 130 on March 12-13, 125 on March 14-15, then 130, 125, 120, 115, 115, 110 and 110 on March 16-22, then back down to 105 on March 23-25. The predicted planetary A index for March 8-10 is 75, 28 and 15, then 10 on March 11-13, 5 on March 14-16, then 12, 15, 10, and 8 on March 17-20, and 5 on March 21-27. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, March 9. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Good Charlotte's March On <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Good_charlotte>.

==> + DXCC NEWS: FOUR OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that four operations -- the current VK0TH and AX/VK0TH (Macquarie Island) operation, the current T6BP (Afghanistan) operation, the 2011 6O0M (Somalia) operation and the December 2011-January 2012 9U3TMM (Burundi) operation -- have been approved for DXCC credit. "If you have had these operations rejected in a recent application, please send an e-mail <bmoore@arrl.org> to the ARRL DXCC Desk," Moore said. "Please note that due to heavy e-mail volume, you may not receive a reply. Once updated, results will appear in Logbook of The World (LoTW <https://p1k.arrl.org/lotwuser/default>) accounts, as well as online in the daily listings <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc>."

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- March 10 -- AGCW QRP Contest
- March 10-11 -- Idaho QSO Party; EA PSK63 Contest
- March 11 -- North American Sprint (RTTY); SKCC Weekend Sprint

- March 11-12 -- Wisconsin QSO Party
- March 14-15 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- March 17 -- 10-10 International Mobile Contest; Feld Hell Sprint; AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- March 17-18 -- North Dakota QSO Party; Oklahoma QSO Party; Virginia QSO Party; Russian DX Contest
- March 17-19 -- BARTG HF RTTY Contest
- March 19 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- March 22 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> + ENTER THE SEVENTH ANNUAL ARRL PHOTO CONTEST!

Have you ever wanted to see a photo of yours in QST, the annual ARRL Amateur Radio Calendar or another ARRL publication? Well, here's your chance! If you're among the winners, not only will your photographic skill be propagated far and wide, but we're offering $100 as the First Prize. The winning photo and three runners-up will be published in QST. All submitted photos will also be considered for the 2013 ARRL Calendar. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/enter-the-seventh-annual-arrl-photo-contest>.

==> NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- When operating CW, do you send the symbol "@" (di-dah-dah-di-dah-dit), or do you spell out "at" (di-dah/dah)?
- Is your primary station computer a desktop, laptop or tablet?
- Does your local Amateur Radio club still publish a newsletter?
- How many times has your primary call sign changed over the years?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the June 2012 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- March 9-10 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-52nd-annual-acadiana
-hamfest>,
Rayne, Louisiana; ARRL Oklahoma State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-state-convention-green-country-hamfest
-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 10-11 -- ARRL Roanoke Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/roanoke-division-convention-charlotte-hamfest-t
m>,
Concord, North Carolina
- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest
>,
Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine
- April 7 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-1>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 14 -- ARRL Delta Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delta-division-convention-3>, Bartlett,
Tennessee
- April 14-15 -- Communications Academy 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2012>, Seattle,
Washington
- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho;
63rd International DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>,
Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radi
o-electronics-expo-1>,
Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe,
Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon

- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
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59. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1804 - March 9 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-09 10:00:11 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120309100002.DF06333C3C@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 478
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1804 - March 9 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1804 with a release date of March 9th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The Dayton Hamvention announces its 2012 award winners, the Sun erupts with a massive C-M-E hurled toward Earth, Brazil bans DXpedition operations from Saint Peter and Saint Paul, new rules now in effect for U-S hams on 60 meters, and a new movie about going into space from Richard Garriott, W5KWQ. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1804 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO HONORS: HAMVENTION ANNOUNCES 2012 AWARD WINNERS

Its honors time in amateur radio. This as the Dayton Amateur Radio Association announces the names of these years Hamvention Award winners. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with more:

--

This year the Dayton Hamvention Awards Committee has gone world wide in choosing who would receive the Hamvention's 2012 honors. Named as Radio Amateur of the Year award recipient is Mr. S. Suri, VU2MY, of Hyderbad, India. Mr. Suri can be described as the Hirum Percy Maxim of that nation. Among his numerous achievements, VU2MY was instrumental in establishing the art and science of amateur radio in India as well as leading the effort to establish the world acclaimed National Institute of Amateur Radio. Staying with his avocation, Mr. Suri has lead search, rescue and recovery efforts in many natural emergency events throughout India and elsewhere.

Technical Achievement Award recipient Joel Hallas, W1ZR, of Westport, Connecticut, is likely best known for his monthly QST column titled "The Doctor Is In." This ongoing series is designed to answer many of the basic and not-so-basic technical questions of ham radio that readers may have on their minds. More important, W1ZR responds to these questions in an easy to read format that might best be cited as having a unique appeal especially to newcomers to the hobby.

In addition to his writing for QST, W1ZR is the author of several well read books. These include such titles as Basic Radio, Basic Antennas,

The ARRL Guide to Antenna Tuners, Care and Feeding of Transmission Lines and Understanding and Using Your Antenna Analyzer. He has also garnered many technical awards and remains one of the top technical authors in the field of amateur radio.

This years Special Achievement Award recipient is Steven Betza, WZ2V, of Endicott, New York. According to the Awards Committee, Betza enjoys teaching students by using live experiments and missions. Through a project called "Blue Horizon," WZ2V has already licensed 38 new hams, set the world record for the highest amateur balloon at 125,000 feet, and demonstrated many technical feats relating to that record breaking flight. He also has contributed in a major way to college and high school education programs in Electronic Engineering.

Last but by no means least, the annual Club of the Year Award goes to Deutsche Amateur Radio Club. Better known by its initials DARC, the group has organized Germany into one unified national radio society that can easily be compared to the ARRL here in the United States. The DARC provides educational and technical support for radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Prior to formal regulations in Germany, the DARC provided guidance in terms of frequency and power management. Today, in addition to all of its other responsibilities, the DARC plays a major role in training and licensing across Germany and is well respected throughout the European Union.

With our sincere congratulations to all of this years Hamvention Award winners, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

The winners will receive their honors at the 2012 Dayton Hamvention. Its scheduled for May 18th to the 20th at the Hara Arena in the Dayton suburb of Trotwood, Ohio. Amateur Radio Newsline plans to be there to bring you all the sound of this years Dayton Hamvention event. (Hamvention 2012)

**

PROPAGATION: SUN EJECTS LARGE CME

The largest solar flare in five years began racing toward Earth on Wednesday March 7th, threatening to unleash a torrent of charged particles that could disrupt communications world-wide.

As this report is being prepared, the government's Space Weather Prediction Center had issued a warning that the effects of the Coronal Mass Ejection or CME were expected to begin around 7 a.m. Eastern time on Thursday, March 8th. Forecasters say the flare was growing as it sped outward from the sun.

Joseph Kunches is a scientist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He said that this particular solar storm was likely to last through Friday morning, March 9th but warned that the region of

the Sun that erupted can still send more CME's our way. Kunches noted that another set of active sunspots is ready visible on the solar disk and that these could also erupt and send more CME's our way.

This latest solar storm comes on the heels of an earlier and weaker solar eruption happened Sunday, March 4th. For updates on this and other solar flare-ups please keep an eye on www.spaceweather.com. (Spaceweather, NOAA, others)

**

BREAKING DX NEWS: BRAZIL BANS PY0S DX OPERATIONS

The Southgate News reports that radio amateur are now prohibited from operating DXpeditions from the Brazilian Archipelago of Saint Peter and Saint Paul also known as PY0S. This is a remote group of islands near the equator whose maximum elevation is only 18 about meters above sea level. It's also the nearest point of Brazil to Africa, lying about 1820 kilometers from Guinea Bissau. St. Peter & St. Paul was rated number 16 in 2011 DXCC list of most wanted entities.

In a report credited to PS8RF and the Brazilian Amateur Radio League and some DX groups in Brazil have shown their displeasure with this government ban in postings on various social websites. PS8RF told Southgate that there is already a major mobilization by the Brazilian ham community aimed at urging the nations Senators and Federal Representatives to reverse the decision on the to ban. PS8RF notes that the biggest concern among Brazilian hams is that this decision could open unheard restrictions to other entities in Brazil as in other parts of the world where there is no amateur radio activity. More on this breaking news item is on-line at www (dot) teresinadxgroup (dot) com. (Southgate, PS8RF)

**

RADIO LAW: NEW US 60 METER RULES NOW IN EFFECT

Effective Monday, March 5th United States radio amateurs were granted new operating privileges on the 60 meter band. In addition to an increase in effective radiated power from 50 to 100 watts, hams can now transmit CW and PSK31. More information on what modes can be used on what frequencies is on-line at the ARRL website. The quick link to it is tinyurl.com/60-meters-now. (ARRL)

**

RADIO LAW: OTTAWA CANADA LOOKS AT BIG HAM ANTENNA RESTRICTIONS

Ottawa Canada's proposed rules for where private radio operators can put their antennas need another look. This according to the City Council's Rural-Affairs Committee which met two days after the city's Planning Committee reached a similar decision. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, reports:

--

According to the on-line Ottawa Citizen, the regulations are aimed at restricting big and intrusive antenna installations while staying out of the way of small ones. But Ottawa area hams have warned City Councilors that they do not agree with the way that they are written,.

Under the rules, antennas on residential properties would be exempt from public consultations as long as they are under 15 meters in height and at the back of a house.

Radio amateurs counter that this type of a regulation would leave little room for a working antenna above many trees and roof lines. Also that it unduly restricts unobtrusive antennas that would be less visible in front yards than telephone wires, and it doesnt distinguish between an urban house and a rural one, where neighbors might be much too far away to care which yard has an antenna in it.

Like the Planning Committee the Rural-Affairs Committee approved the rules their staff had made up, but nevertheless asked for tweaks and improvements to be made before the issue heads to City Council for a final vote on March 28.

The Canadian Province of Ottawa is home to about 1,400 amateur radio operators. City Council members have already been told that ham radio operators comes are a vital resource during rare disasters like extended power failures. Amateur radio enthusiasts were instrumental in setting up communications during the 1998 ice storm, particularly on the hard-hit South Shore of Montreal.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, Im Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

According to the March 1st story, the city of Ottawa cannot actually control the placement of private or commercial antennas. That's the purview of Canadian federal telecommunications regulator Industry Canada. However Industry Canada does give municipalities a chance to comment when it's making decisions so that citizens can express what a city thinks is right for them. Now the Ottawa City Council must convince Industry Canada to adopt them. (ottawacitizen.com)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WA4TEN repeater serving the city of Knoxville, Tennessee.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: TRAINED EMCOMM OPERATORS NEEDED IN WAKE OF INDIANA TORNADO

Ham radio operators were activated after a rash of tornadoes hit in several states. We have more in this report:

--

Trained ham radio communicators are needed in Clark County, Indiana following tornadoes that devastated the area on March 2nd.

In a posting to the Indiana Ham remailer picked up on QRZ.com, Jeff Brady, N9WSV, who is the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Clark County, Indiana, says that more operators are needed to assist in recovery efforts Brady says that they could use additional operators to man various posts even if its only for a few hours a day.

But do not just show up on site. Rather, if you can assist first contact N9WSV by phone at 502-777-7304 or e-mail to n9wsv (at) arrl (dot) net. If you are in the area he is monitoring the146.94 repeater which requires a 67hz sub-audible access tone.

N9WSV adds that the local team of ham radio operators have put in many hours and any relief is greatly appreciated.

--

More on this story in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (W8ISH, IN_HAM, QRZ.com)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: BOSTON AREA HAMS NEEDED FOR 44TH PROJECT BREAD WALK FOR HUNGER EVENT

The 44th running of the Boston, Massachusetts area Project Bread Walk for Hunger takes place on on Sunday, May 6th. Communications planners say that they licensed radio amateurs to provide communications support for the Project Bread Staff and volunteers along the 20 mile walk. If you are interested in helping out this year, please take your web browser to www.mmra.org/wfh to log in and fill out the signup form. Questions go to wfh12 (at) mmra (dot) org. (KA1NCF)

**

RADIO POLITICS: A TINY MOVE TOWARD CONFIRMING NEW COMMISSIONERS

There could be some movement on the stalled FCC nominee front, but not very much. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasik, K9BIK, reports:

--

According to a spokesperson for Senator Charles Grassley his staffers met with those of Commerce Committee Chairman Senator Jay Rockefeller on Monday February 27th to discuss the senator's hold on two pending FCC Commissioner nominations. These are Jessica Rosenworcel and Ajit Pai.

The Grassley spokesperson called the meeting a "development" rather than "progress." She added that she would not further characterize the meeting beyond saying it was about the nominations, Senator Grassley's hold threat and a possible resolution.

The Grassley warning stems from his request for documents related to the FCC's LightSquared waiver. These are documents that the FCC has refused to provide based on the agency's claim that Senator Grassley is not the chair of a relevant committee. That decision by the FCC to effuse the request has sparked a confrontation between the senator and the regulatory agency.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasik, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

The FCC has been without a full complement of commissioners since last spring, when it was reduced to four by the exit of Meredith Attwell Baker. It has been at three since the retirement of Michael Copps at the end of last year. (B&C)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FLORIDA CB OPERATOR ORDERED TO PAY A REDUCED $450 FINE

The FCC has affirmed a reduced fine of $450 issued to a Florida C B radio operator based only on his proven inability to pay a much higher $10,000 Notice of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture. In ordering Michael W. Perry of Cross City to pay the reduced amount, the commission turned away his claim that he was not using a non-certified transmitter or an external power amplifier on the 11 meter band.

In its order, the FCC indicated that there was ample physical evidence in this case and that the $10,000 fine was being reduced solely based on Perry proving that the fine would be a financial hardship on him. However it also cautioned Perry that a party's inability to pay is only one factor in its forfeiture calculation analysis. The FCC stated that it has it has previously rejected inability to pay claims in cases of repeated or otherwise egregious violations. Therefore, future violations of this kind may result in significantly higher forfeitures that may not be reduced due to Perry's financial circumstances.

Perry was given the customary 30 days from the date that the Forfeiture Order was affirmed to pay the $450. If he fails to do so the matter could be turned over to the Department of Justice for collection. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: NO STAFF AND YOU GET A FINE

The FCC issued a notice of apparent liability to Taylor Broadcasting, which owns WJTB AM in Elyria, Ohio. This for allegedly failing to maintain management and staff presence at its main studio.

In issuing the proposed $10,000 fine the FCC said that its agents visited WJTB to inspect it in March 2010 but found the main studio locked and apparently empty. According to the FCC, a person who identified herself as Ms. Taylor drove up and them and said that they would have to talk to a Mr. Taylor. She gave the agents a phone number but even armed with that contact information the agents were unable to reach him or gain access to the studio.

Later, after the FCC wrote a letter of inquiry, the company replied that its personnel do not work specific days and times, but rather are scheduled as needed. It also said that that the agents should have pushed the entry buzzer. But when FCC agents returned in August, they again found the door locked, with no one answering knocks, and no entry buzzer button to press.

In issuing the proposed fine, the FCC says that Taylor Broadcasting's claim that station personnel are scheduled as needed has not resulted in a meaningful management and staff presence at its main studio. The base fine for such cases is $7,000 but the commission set the penalty at $10,000, saying Taylor's continued failure to comply with the commission's main studio requirements even after being advised of this demonstrates a deliberate disregard for the rules.

Taylor Broadcasting was given the customary 30 days from the date the Notice of Apparent Liability was issued to pay it or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

RADIO WEATHER: HIGH WINDS SHUT DOWN ILLINOIS TV STATION

Dual station WTVO and WQRF in Rockford, Illinois was forced off the air on Friday, March 2nd and staff evacuated from the building. This as heavy snow and low altitude winds caused guy wires on the stations 700 foot high tower to whip around wildly.

The stations Chief Engineer Mike Real. In a media interview he said that in all the years that he has been at WTVO and WQRF that he has never seen the tower guy system reacting in that way. He noted that the swaying guy wires had the ability to actually start shaking the tower down, or cause damage to the it which is what we wanted to check on. Because of this the station stayed off the air as crews examined the tower over the weekend.

In addition to the evacuation at WTVO and WQRF, 12 homes near the tower were evacuated Friday night. After the inspection was completed, WTVO-WQRF resumed broadcasting on Sunday night, March 4th. (WTVO-WQRF)

**

HAM RADIO ON THE WEB: A VIDEO TOUR OF W1AW

In case you missed the live web tour of the February 12th of ARRL headquarters' flagship station W1AW you can now watch the 18 minute video on the ARRL website. In the show W1AW Station Manager Joe

Carcia, NJ1Q, led Geoff Fox, K1GF, on a tour of the famed station. Al Petrunti, KA1TCH, of the New Day Group recording it for future netcasting. You can view that video tour at www.arrl.org/w1aw. It's at the bottom of the page. (ARRL)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: MARTLESHAM MICROWAVE ROUND TABLE APRIL 28-29

The 2012 Martlesham Microwave Round Table takes place April 28th and the 29th. This year's venue is the BT Adastral Park, Martlesham Heath, in the United Kingdom near the city of Suffolk.

Speakers scheduled so far include J.R. Miller, G3RUH; Andy Talbot, G4JNT; B.R. Coleman, G4NNS, and a number of other well known U-K microwave experimenters. The United States will be represented by well known author Kent Britain, WA5VJB of Grand Prairie, Texas.

This promises to be one of the best Martlesham Microwave Round Table in history. More information is on-line at mmrt.homedns. org. (UK Microwave Group)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE3CGN APPOINTED RAC ONTARIO SEC

Some names in the news. Fist up is Scott Carter VE3CGN who has been appointed as the new Section Emergency Coordinator for A-R-E-S in Ontario, Canada. According to Radio Amateurs of Canada, Carter was the former District Emergency Coordinator for the Tecumsah District and holds many certifications in emergency management. He is also very active with the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network. His appointment was effective on March 1st. (RAC, VE3AJB)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W5LFL AND W5KWQ - MAN ON A MISSION - THE MOVIE

And next we travel back in time to 1983. That's when then NASA astronaut and ham operator Owen Garriott, W5LFL, made the first manned amateur radio transmission from space. His pioneering effort from flight STS-9 paved the way for todays International Space Station ARISS program.

Several decades later, Owen's son Richard, W5KWQ, would fly to the ISS and use the same method to talk to his dad and many others here on planet Earth. Now, these historic moments have been captured in the exciting new documentary titled Man on a Mission. A film that reveals Richard Garriotts quest to become the first second generation American in space.

In a note to Amateur Radio Newsline via First Run Features, both W5LFL and W5KWQ ask that hams spread the word about this documentary to your club members and associates in the amateur radio community. Currently,

Man on a Mission is available nationwide via Video on Demand. A DVD release is planned for May 2012. More about this documentary is on-line at firstrunfeatures.com/manonamission. The films trailer ca ne seen at tinyurl.com/garriott-film. (Firstrun Features)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: UK SPECIAL 600 METER PERMITS EXTENDED

United Kingdom Notices of Variation to amateur radio licenses for special research permits to operate in the band 501 to 504 kHz have been extended to December 31st 2012. This as telecommunications regulator Ofcom has begun discussions with the Radio Society of Great Britain about the timetable for implementing the new secondary allocation to the amateur service, 472 to 479 kHz that was recently approved at WRC-12. The agreed upon availability date for this band to begin to become available for administrations world-wide to begin proceedings to open to their ham radio communities is effective as of January 1st, 2013. A United Kingdom Notices of Variation is the equivlant to an FCC issued Special Temporary Authority or STA grant here in the USA. (RSGB)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: HAMSAT VO-52 GOES SILENT

The HAMSAT VO-52 amateur radio satellite that suddenly ceased operating last month could return to the air. According to V-U-2-W-M-Y, the satellite is in what he calls "excellent health" following recovery efforts and is currently under observation by ground controllers in India.

By way of background, on February 28th all transmissions from HAMSAT VO-52 ceased. Since then neither its beacon nor it's 435 to 145 MHz linear transponder had been heard by stations on the ground. However it now looks as if the bird is back to life, but there is one caveat.

VU2VMY notes that HAMSAT VO-52 is actually the property of the government of India. Therefore unlike other amateur radio satellites that are owned, operated and maintained by non-governmental agencies, detailed information on HAMSAT VO-52 cannot be shared with anyone in accordance with the prevailing governmental regulations. However VU2WMY adds that a decision about switching its transponder back on is

pending clearance.

VU2WMY adds that this is the first ever interruption in the services of the bird since HAMSAT VO-52 was commissioned on May 5th of 2005. (VU2VMY)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: VA3OOG TO BE FIRST CANADIAN TO COMMAND THE ISS

The BBC reports that astronaut Chris Hadfield, VA3OOG, who also holds the U-S call KC5RNJ will be the first Canadian to command the International Space Station.

According to the news report, Hadfield will begin his journey when he launches to the ISS on board a Russian Soyuz lift vehicle near the end of this year. For his first three months on-orbit the 52-year-old ham radio operator will serve as a flight engineer in the Expedition 34 crew. Then, in March 2013, he will assume command of Expedition 35 for three months before returning to Earth.

This will not be Hadfield's first trip into space. On past missions to orbit he became the first Canadian to undertake a spacewalk and was the first and only Canadian to board the Russian Mir space station.

VA3OOG was also the first Canadian to operate his country's major contribution to the space shuttle program. That being its famed robotic arm that was used in numerous space experiments, on-orbit repairs and to help build the ISS.

You can read more about Chris Hadfield, VA3OOG, and his coming trip to the ISS on line at tinyurl.com/va3oog-on-orbit. (BBC, Space Today)

**

WORLDBEAT: TOKYO JAPAN HOME TO WORLDS TALLEST BROADCAST TOWER

A ceremony to mark the completion of the world's tallest freestanding broadcasting tower was held in Tokyo on Friday, March 2nd. Construction on the Tokyo Sky Tree tower began in 2008. It was completed a few days prior to its dedication ceremony.

The Sky Tree stands 2,080 feet tall and is claimed to be the tallest structure of its type ever built. It will eventually be the home of most broadcasting and two-way radio operations in that city.

Video of the new tower and the dedication ceremony is on-line at tinyurl.com/tall-tokyo-tower. And before you ask if will also be the home of any sort of ham radio relay operation we can only say that your guess is as good as ours. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: DRM COMING TO INDIA

All India Radio has outlined its digitization plan. This during the 18th Annual Broadcast Engineering Society of India event.

According to All India Radio Director General, a pair of one megawatt transmitters at Rajkot and Kolkata are likely to be operational by the end of March and an additional 72 Digital Radio Mondiale transmitters would be commissioned between June of this year and March 2013.

The ongoing rollout by All India Radio has gained the interest of receiver manufacturers, who were present at the event with their latest products. Digital Radio Mondiale member companies Nautel, Digidia, Fraunhofer, Harris and Thomson Broadcast attended the conference this year. (Radio Magazine)

**

ON THE AIR: FLEMISH RADIO AMATEURS COMMEMORATE THE SINKING OF THE TITANIC 100 YEARS AGO

Three special call signs will be activated from April 1st to the 30th from Belgium by the Flemish Radio Amateurs organization. This to honor those who perished 100 years ago in the sinking of the steam ship Titanic.

OO100MGY by operated from the city of Antwerp. OR100MGY will take to the air from Knokke-Heist while OT100MGY will be on from Londerzeel.

During the weekend of April 14 through April 15, all three stations will be active during a marathon session from 12:00 Saturday until 16:00 Sunday UTC. Each of these stations has a special and unique QSL card available so that three different styles can be acquired. (FRA)

**

DX

In DX, word that the AX stroke VK0TH operation from Macquarie Island, the December 2011 and January 2012 9U3TMM DXpedition to Burundi and the 2011 6-Oh-Zero M operation from Somalia have all now been approved for DXCC credit. Also approved is the current T6BP operation from Afghanistan, If you had any of these operations rejected in a recent application send a note to bmoore (at) arrl ()dot) org to have your record updated. Moore notes that the AX stroke VK0TH operation is in addition to the VK0TH that has already been approved for DXCC recognition.

On the air look for the E51M DXpedition that is going to North Cook Islands. Its now announced that it will also be active as E51MCW from Rarotonga, South Cook Islands between April 11th and the 14th. Operations will be on all bands, including 60 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via DJ8NK, direct or via the bureau.

AG1LE will be active stroke KP2 from the Radio Reef Contest Station KP2M on St. Croix between April 4 to the 11th. QSL as directed on the air.

Lastly, F8FGU will be active as CN2RN from High Atlas, Morocco between April 3rd and the 30th. His operations will be on the High Frequency bands using CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign, either via the bureau or direct.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: PHILADELPHIA JOURNALISTS HONOR A FAMOUS RADIO AMATEUR

And finally this week, a special honor has been bestowed on a broadcast journalist who is considered to be the driving force that put manned amateur radio operations into space. He was truly a broadcast pioneer and a part of the Amateur Radio Newsline family as well. Mark Abramovich, NT3V, is here with the details:

--

Many Newsline listeners recognize the name Roy Neal - the space voice of NBC News for many years and a big contributor to Newsline.

Well, what most may not know is the late Roy Neal, K6DUE, actually grew up here in Philadelphia and got his start in the broadcasting business right here.

A few months back, the Broadcast Pioneers of Philadelphia, inducted Roy Neal into their Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Gerry Wilkinson, chairman of the board of the Broadcast Pioneers of Philadelphia, says Roy Neal got his start in the early days of radio and TV in Philadelphia.

"He was public affairs/news director at WIBG," Wilksinson says. "Then, he went over to WPTZ, Channel 3, which is now KYW-TV. It was owned by Philco and for four or five years he did television programs for them."

Wilkinson says Neal was bitten by the space bug early and there was no doubt that's what he wanted to talk about and cover the most.

And, Wilkinson says, he had the privilege over the years of keeping in touch with Neal - even after his retirement from the broadcast business.

"When you talked to him on the phone there was just story, after story, after story that he would tell you and he was just really a remarkable gentleman," Wilkinson recalls.

Wilkinson says Roy Neal never forgot his roots.

"He still loved Philadelphia," Wilkinson says. "The first three chapters of his book all deal with Philadelphia and he certainly never forgot Philadelphia."

Book you say?

Don't bother looking. Roy never finished that book. But sent several of his close friends, including Wilkinson, the first three chapters.

You can read it at the Broadcaster Pioneers website by going to the web address inserted in the text version of this story on our website arnewsline.org.

Finally, Wilkinson says while it took some time to getting Roy into the Philadelphia Hall of Fame, it was an honor well-deserved.

"He's one of us," Wilkinson says. "He's from Philadelphia. And, we really believed that what he did in Philadelphia and then later on in his career that he deserved to be honored."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

For us here at Amateur Radio Newsline its hard to believe that Roy has been gone some nine years. It seems like only yesterday when his signature sign off would end one of these newscasts. (Link to Roy Neal's book: http://www.broadcastpioneers.com/roynealbook.html) (NT3V)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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60. Re: Can pasta-inspired radio waves could unclog the wireless world?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-11 22:10:00 UTC
From: John Davis <wa8yxm@gmail.invalid.com>
Message-ID: <jjgrg7$3c8$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 479

```
On 3/6/2012 10:49 AM, Bill Horne wrote:
> I came across this story today, and I'd appreciate hearing other hams'
> opinions as to whether this is possible. TIA.
>
> Bill, W1AC
> - - - - -
>
> Pasta-inspired radio waves could unclog the wireless world
>
> Agence France-Presse
> 6:39 am | Saturday, March 3rd, 2012
>
> WASHINGTONï¿½Radio waves that move like pasta spirals could help unclog
> the wireless world by boosting the power of radio communications,
> Italian and Swedish researchers said Friday.
>
> The new way to make radio signals more potent without boosting bandwidth
> is described in the Institute of Physics and German Physical Societyï¿½s
> New Journal of Physics edition of March 2.
>
> ï¿½In a three-dimensional perspective, this phase twist looks like a
> fusillli-pasta-shaped beam,ï¿½ lead study author Fabrizio Tamburini was
> quoted as telling the science website PhysOrg.
>
> ï¿½Each of these twisted beams can be independently generated, propagated
> and detected even in the very same frequency band, behaving as
> independent communication channels.ï¿½
>
> That means they do not move linearly like all current forms of radio
> communications do, and they do not need more bandwidth to increase their
> transmission capacity.
>
> http://technology.inquirer.net/8897/pasta-inspired-radio-waves-could-unclog-the-wireless
-world
>
>
Sounds like circular polarization to me, Sat-TV uses it to put not one
but TWO transponders on the same frequency.

You can do the same between two FIXED sites using cross polarization,
however in the real world that does not work as well as circular... I
know, I've done it.

--
Nothing adds Excitement like something that is none of your business.
```

Remove the invalid part to email me.

61. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-15 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1331791201@panix.com>
Source record: 480
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
```

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

---

2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

62. FCC Daily Digest 03/15/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-15 16:24:43 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-517175-2012.03.15-11.40.23--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 481
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 51 March 15, 2
012

[...]

TODD WILSON. Proposed to modify the operator privileges of Todd Wilson,
licensee of Amateur Radio Service Station WH6DWF. Specifically, proposed
to modify Wilson's operator license to show Technician Class operator privi
leges. by ORDER PROPOSING MODIFICATION. Action by: Deputy Chief, Mobility
Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. Adopted: 03/14/2012 by ORDER
. (DA No. 12-408). WTB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/
DA-12-408A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-408A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-408A1.txt

[...]

63. FW: TI-2 is a Go! New Online Forum for Teachers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-15 18:14:43 UTC
From: ARRL Education Services <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120315174305.6649E203BF@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 482
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

Teachers,

I'm pleased to share two pieces of good news-

Now Accepting Applications!

1) Dayton Amateur Radio Association will sponsor our Teachers Institute on Space in the Classroom (TI-2) again this summer and we are now accepting applications. This expenses paid, 4-day professional development opportunity will be July 9-12 in Dayton, Ohio. Eight seats will are available. An Amateur Radio license and prior attendance at a foundational TI (TI-1) are required. You'll find more details on our website at: www.arrl.org/ti-2-space-in-the-classroom

As previously announced, we will also be offering two sessions of the Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology (TI-1): www.arrl.org/teachers-institute-on-wireless-technology:

o July 9-12 at Parallax in Rocklin, CA

o July 23-26 at ARRL Headquarters, Newington, CT

Application deadline is May 15, 2012.

Contributions to the Education & Technology Program Fund <http://www.arrl.org/education-and-technology-fund> from individuals and ham radio clubs, as well as in-kind support from Yaesu USA, Ham Radio Outlet and Parallax make the Teachers Institute possible.

Join our Online Forum for Classroom Teachers

2) We are implementing an online forum for classroom teachers on the ARRL website. You'll find a link to "Forums" on the home page of the ARRL website, or simply go to: www.arrl.org/forums and scroll down to "Amateur Radio in the Classroom." Mark Spencer, WA8SME will be moderating the forum, and other Teachers Institute instructors as well as past participants will be available to answer questions and respond with ideas from personal classroom experience. Some rich dialog has been shared in private email communications over the years; I'm pleased that now we can provide a way to open up that dialog for the benefit of all.

Log in and post your questions or share an idea-- let's create an active online community that will generate ideas and inspiration for Wireless Technology instruction!

Debra Johnson, K1DMJ

Education Services Manager

ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio(r)

225 Main Street

Newington, CT 06111-1494

(860) 594-0296

Fax: (860) 594-0259

djohnson@arrl.org <mailto:djohnson@arrl.org>

64. The ARRL Letter for March 15, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-15 19:54:28 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120315192137.C6902204B7@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 483
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**************************************

March 15, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + Public Service: Hams in Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio Provide Support
During and After Tornado Outbreak
- + On the Air: Understanding the New 60 Meter Privileges
- + On the Air: Mark Your Calendars: It's Time for the Spring FMT
- + At the Workbench: The ARRL Homebrew Challenge III -- And the Winner
Is...
- + FCC News: FCC Seeks to Modify Hawaiian Ham's License
- W1AW Announces Spring Operating Schedule
- On the Air: ARRL Seeks Comments on Proposed 9 cm Band Plan
- Solar Update
- + ARRL Warns Members to Be Aware of Bogus E-mails
- This Week in Radiosport
- + Enter the Seventh Annual ARRL Photo Contest!
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: HAMS IN INDIANA, KENTUCKY AND OHIO PROVIDE
SUPPORT DURING AND AFTER TORNADO OUTBREAK

A devastating storm system moved across the United States on March
2, spawning a slew of tornadoes that contributed to at least 28
fatalities in Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. These tornadoes followed an
earlier outbreak that began on February 28 and left 13 dead across
Kansas, Missouri, Illinois and Tennessee and battered parts of
Kentucky. The Clark County (Indiana) Emergency Management Agency
activated the local RACES team to help provide communications support,
hams in Eastern Kentucky set up SKYWARN nets to assist the local
National Weather Service office and Cincinnati-area hams supported the
National Weather Service and the American Red Cross. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/hams-in-indiana-kentucky-and-ohio-provide-support-d
uring-and-after-tornado-outbreak>.
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==> + ON THE AIR: UNDERSTANDING THE NEW 60 METER PRIVILEGES

On March 5, radio amateurs were granted new privileges on the 60 meter band. The effective radiated power level was increased from 50 to 100 W, along with the ability to use CW and the digital modes PACTOR III and PSK31.

"CW operators seem to have little problem figuring how where they need to transmit, but some PSK31 operators are reading the text of the FCC's Report & Order and coming away a bit confused," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "The R&O states: 'We adopt a modified instruction for PSK31 channel use to correct an error introduced in the NPRM. To have a PSK31 signal transmitted on the center frequency, the control operator should not set the carrier frequency to the center frequency but should instead set the carrier frequency 1.5 kHz below the center frequency (i.e., the same as for phone and data emissions).'

"The word 'carrier' in this context means the suppressed carrier frequency of a transceiver when operated in the USB mode, but some have taken it to mean the PSK31 signal itself," Henderson noted. "They read this text and come to the conclusion that the PSK31 signal should be 1.5 kHz below the channel center. They are mistaken. The PSK31 signal must be in the center of the channel." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/60-meters-one-week-later>.

==> + ON THE AIR: MARK YOUR CALENDARS: IT'S TIME FOR THE SPRING FMT

The Frequency Measuring Test (FMT) continues its successful "round-table" format when it takes to the airwaves on the evening of April 19 (April 20 UTC). The test moves to Thursday from the November FMT's usual Wednesday evening, giving everyone an opportunity to participate. Recognizing the higher solar flux, the FMT will lead off with a 20 meter segment -- one transmission beaming east, and the other west from Connie Marshall, K5CM, in Oklahoma -- with both transmissions on the same frequency. The sponsors are particularly interested in your comments on frequency differences observed between the directions due to propagation-related effects. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/mark-your-calendars-it-s-time-for-the-spring-fmt>.

==> + AT THE WORKBENCH: THE ARRL HOMEBREW CHALLENGE III -- AND THE WINNER IS...

The previous ARRL Homebrew Challenges have been to build a 5 W PEP 40 meter sideband and CW transceiver (Homebrew Challenge I) and then a 50 W linear amplifier to follow it (Homebrew Challenge II). This third challenge moved up the spectrum into frequencies that might be of interest to Technician class amateurs -- 10 and 6 meters.

There were two separate entry categories for this challenge: single band or multiband. The single band unit could have been for either 10 or 6 meters and had to output 25 W PEP on SSB and CW, with a cost target of $150. The multiband unit had to put out the same power on both bands and be built for under $200 of parts. Each entry category

had detailed requirements for receiver and transmitter performance. The FCC requirements for transmitter spurious response of -43 dB on 10 meters -- and particularly the -60 dB on 6 meters -- were expected to be tough. The first category had a prize of $200, while the second offered $300. While we heard from others who expected to participate, two entrants brought or sent us working transceivers by the November 1, 2011 deadline. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-arrl-homebrew-challenge-iii-and-the-winner-is>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC SEEKS TO MODIFY HAWAIIAN HAM'S LICENSE

On March 15, the FCC issued an Order Proposing Modification, seeking to change the license class of Todd Wilson, WH6DWF, of Honolulu, Hawaii, from General to Technician. The FCC stated that granting General class Amateur Radio operator privileges to Wilson was "improper." In November 2011, the ARRL VEC sent an electronic data file to the FCC, requesting that the FCC issue Wilson a new General class license. Based on this application, the FCC granted Wilson a General class license on November 29, 2011. In January 2012, the ARRL VEC notified the FCC that Wilson's information was incorrect and he did not qualify for a General class license; the ARRL VEC asked the FCC to modify Wilson's license to show him to hold a Technician class license. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-modify-hawaiian-ham-s-license>.

==> W1AW ANNOUNCES SPRING OPERATING SCHEDULE

With the switch from Standard Time to Daylight Saving Time, W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, has updated the W1AW operating schedule to reflect the change. Your local standard times have not changed, but the UTC times they reference have. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/w1aw-announces-spring-operating-schedule-1>.

==> ON THE AIR: ARRL SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 9 CM BAND PLAN

A few months ago, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee asked the Amateur Radio community about current, planned and projected uses of the amateur bands between 902 MHz and 3.5 GHz. The response was beyond our expectations, with hundreds of comments and suggestions received. Thanks to all of you who took the time to share information with us. After reading the feedback, the committee began working on the band plans; the first draft plan ready for review is for the 9 cm band (3300-3500 MHz). Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-comments-on-proposed-9-cm-band-plan>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Waiting for the Sun <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M24Yhd7N91s>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers over the past reporting week (March 8-14) were 88.3, a rise of nearly 19 points; the average daily solar flux rose more than 12 points to 134.2. Three new sunspots emerged. The first was sunspot group 1421 on March 9, which began with a relative

area of 90. In the days following, it went to 80, 50, 80, 70 and 60. Two more sunspot groups -- numbered 1433 and 1434 -- appeared on March 11, with a combined relative area (in millionths of a solar hemisphere) of 240, then 130, 140 and 150. The sunspot number peaked on March 11 at 103, and the solar flux on March 10 at 148.9 and again on March 13 at 140.7. The outlook for the next few days has solar flux at 115 on March 15, 110 on March 16, 105 on March 17-21, 110 on March 22-23, and back down to 105 on March 24-27. There was a great deal of geomagnetic activity on March 9, with a planetary A index at 68, and again on March 12 with planetary A index of 28. An M-class x-ray flare occurred on March 15 at 0752 UTC, and if you catch it soon enough, you can see the resulting x-ray flux <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/rt_plots/xray_5mBL.html> on the GOES monitor. The predicted planetary A index for March 15-18 are 15, 20, 15 and 8, and then 5 for March 19-27. The vernal equinox will occur at 0514 UTC on March 20. The shift to spring generally means favorable conditions for HF propagation. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, March 16. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Simon and Garfunkels's Old Friends/Bookends <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bookends>.

==> + ARRL WARNS MEMBERS TO BE AWARE OF BOGUS E-MAILS

Some ARRL members with arrl.net e-mail accounts have recently received bogus e-mails, notifying them of a bill that supposedly needs to be paid. The e-mail instructs the reader to click on a link to view the bill; clicking on the link could release a virus that can infect your computer. Please be aware that these e-mails are not coming from the ARRL. "If you receive an e-mail like this and it looks like it originated from ARRL, please do not respond," explained ARRL IT Manager Michael Keane, K1MK. "The best thing you can do when receiving bogus e-mails is to simply add them to the spam list in your computer's e-mail program and delete it. Please don't forward it to ARRL HQ -- we will have already seen it and are already responding to it."

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- March 17 -- 10-10 International Mobile Contest; Feld Hell Sprint; AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- March 17-18 -- North Dakota QSO Party; Oklahoma QSO Party; Virginia QSO Party; Russian DX Contest
- March 17-19 -- BARTG HF RTTY Contest
- March 19 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- March 22 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next week:

- March 24-25 -- CQ WW WPX Contest (SSB)
- March 26 -- QRP Homebrewer Sprint

- March 28 -- SKCC Sprint
- March 28-29 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> + ENTER THE SEVENTH ANNUAL ARRL PHOTO CONTEST!

Have you ever wanted to see a photo of yours in QST, the annual ARRL Amateur Radio Calendar or another ARRL publication? Well, here's your chance! If you're among the winners, not only will your photographic skill be propagated far and wide, but we're offering $100 as the First Prize. The winning photo and three runners-up will be published in QST. All submitted photos will also be considered for the 2013 ARRL Calendar. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/enter-the-seventh-annual-arrl-photo-contest>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- March 17 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-end-of-winter-hamfest>,
Lincoln, Nebraska; ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-2>,
Stuart, Florida; ARRL West Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-57th-annual-st-patrick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine
- April 7 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest-1>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 14 -- ARRL Delta Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delta-division-convention-3>, Bartlett,
Tennessee
- April 14-15 -- Communications Academy 2012 <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2012>, Seattle,
Washington
- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho;
63rd International DX Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>,
Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radio-electronics-expo-1>,
Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe,
Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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65. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1805 - March 16 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-16 12:05:22 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120316090003.2C30A33C91@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 484
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1805 - March 16 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1805 with a release date of March 16th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. More on ham radios role in the wake of a recent tornado outbreak; FEMA asks the FCC to permit text to speech EAS transmissions; interference from ocean buoys discovered on 10 meters and a DXpedition to Mali is cancelled due to political unrest in that nation. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1805 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: ARES HAMS FILL MULTIPLE ROLES DURING KENTUCKY SEVERE WEATHER OUTBREAK

Amateur Radio operators in Hardin and surrounding Kentucky counties provided critical communications during and after the severe weather outbreaks on February 29th, and again on Saturday March 3rd. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, is here with the details:

--

Members of the Hardin County Kentucky Amateur Radio Emergency Service were activated initially by the National Weather Service. This as a resource to relay significant weather information directly to their office in Louisville.

Hardin County ARES provided weather spotting, logistics, disaster assessment, and shelter coordination assistance. Throughout the severe weather, they were busy maintaining communications with served agencies, with hams in adjacent counties, other ARES units, and to amateur radio station WX4NWS which is located at the Louisville National Weather service office.

Knowing in advance the high probability for dangerous weather, several of the volunteer radio amateurs took personal time off from work in order to perform this public service.

In the aftermath of these deadly storms, Hardin County Amateur Radio operators continued to serve with agencies in affected areas in Southern Indiana and Eastern Kentucky, providing communications, disaster assistance, and support for ongoing search, rescue and recovery operations.

Fred Jones, WA4SWF, is the Region 4 Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator for the ARES in Eastern Kentucky. He e-mailed Newsline that as of March 11th there were Amateur Radio emergency Service nets still in operation on 8 repeaters in Eastern Kentucky. Whether or not these nets have been secured is unknown as we go to air.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

According to Shelby Ennis, W8WN, who is the Emergency Coordinator of the Hardin County ARES, 20 operators were active during the emergency on February 29th and 27 volunteered on March 3rd. (WA4SWF, KE4EK)

**

RESCUE RADIO: FEMA WANTS FCC TO ALLOW CAP TEXT TO SPEECH NOW

The Federal Emergency Management Agency better known by the acronym FEMA has asked the FCC to reconsider portions of its latest EAS Report and Order. Specifically in the area dealing with message standards.

In its filing, FEMA told the commission that portions of its 5th Report and Order on EAS limit the ability of local emergency management officials to obtain all of the benefits of Common Alerting Protocol messaging standards for EAS. Especially those that deal with text to speech conversion .

The FCC had put off the text-to-speech conversion issue for a separate rule making proceeding. But FEMA claims that one possible consequence of not allowing such conversions now is that Common Alerting Protocol messages supplied without audio content could cause a C-A-P equipped EAS device to interrupt a stations normal programming and only convey an EAS header tone. Or it might only transmit an alert signal and an end-of-message notification.

FEMA says that for radio stations this would mean that no information usable by the public would be conveyed. As such, FEMA is urging the FCC to reconsider and to allow speech-to-text technology to support EAS radio operations now.

(RW, Radio Today, Observer)

**

COMMUNICATIONS LAW: HOUSE ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE APPROVES TWO FCC REFORM MEASURES

The House Energy and Commerce Committee voted 31 to 16 on Tuesday March 6th to approve an FCC reform bill that puts shot clocks on FCC decisions, requires disclosure of items before votes, and limits on merger conditions.

The cable, phone and broadcast industries all supported the FCC reform efforts as outlined in HR 3309, while House Democrats said the measure

will needlessly tie the FCC's hands and could lead to endless litigation. Democrats have vowed to defeat the measure.

At the same time the House also passed a second, non controversial FCC reform bill. HR 3310 that simply requires the FCC to conduct a biennial survey of the state of competition in the marketplace that will be published online and submitted to Congress. (B&C)

**

ON THE AIR: IRLP TOPIC CHANNELS INAUGURATED

The long-awaited Internet Radio Linking Project or IRLP Topic Channels have now gone live. IRLP- users are now able to log onto reflector channels allocated for interests ranging from DX'ing to music, media, history, the upcoming 2012 election and many others.

For those not aware, the Internet Radio Linking Project was the result of research and development by Dave Cameron, VE7LTD, back in 1998. This as a way of using the Internet to interconnect repeaters world-wide. With the advent of IRLP Topic Channels the concept has developed into a global discussion real-time forum on almost any topic of interest to those signed on.

For up-to-date information on the IRLP Topic Channels please visit www.irlptopics.net. To locate an IRLP node near you go to status.irlp.net on the world-wide-web. (W7RAT, Southgate)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: BUOYS ON 10 METERS

The source of some mysterious weak signals on 29.684 MHz with an 81.9 Baud and 130 Hz shift have been located. According to the February IARU Region One newsletter, the signals came from the Spanish coastal area and were audible across all of Europe but only during band openings and only by directional antennas.

It turns out the source of transmissions by Datawell buoys. These buoys, produced in the Netherlands are used for measuring water temperatures and wave heights. They are designed to transmit with 75 milliwatts on frequencies between 27 and 40 MHz.

Dick Van Empelen, PA2GRU, of Heemstede in the Netherlands has since visited the Datawell Company and has informed them that the buoy transmissions on the amateur service 10 meter band are illegal. The operations chief promised to inform all Datawell offices about the situation. (IARU-R1)

**

BREAKING NEWS: PLANNED MALI DXPEDITION ON HOLD DUE TO POLITICAL UNREST

Some breaking news in the world of DX. This with word that political unrest has led to a planned DX operation to Mali being put on

indefinite hold.

Two weeks ago members of the "Italian Dxpedition Team" announced that they were planning to be active as TZ5T from Mali between April 12th to the 27th. However, their Pilot station Art Lorenzo, IK7JWY, has now issued a statement that the situation of civil war in Mali between the government and Tuareg insurgents is worsening. Because of this and other concerns Mali authorities will not issue licenses to radio amateurs who may be targeted because of radio equipment.

For this reason the DXpedition has been postponed until a yet to be determined later date. For updates please check in regularly at www (dot) i2ysb (dot) com on the World-Wide Web. And we will have more DX news later on in this weeks report. (OPDX)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio

Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world

including the Echo Repeater System serving Mt. Prospect

Illinois.

(5 sec pause here)

**

PROPAGATION: YET ANOTHER CME HEADS TOWARD EARTH Spaceweather reports that the sun has again erupted in a way that will likely affect radio propagation here on Earth for several days. Especially on the High Frequency bands. We have more in this report:

--

Sunspot AR1429 unleashed another strong flare on March 13th. The category M 7.9 explosion produced a significant Coronal Mass Ejection or CME that solar forecasters predicted would reach Earth at 06:20 UTC, plus or minus 7 hours, on March 15th and whose effects on propagation could last for several days.

As a result, geomagnetic storms are possible when the charged cloud arrives that could produce auroral displays in the Northern-most latitudes. This in turn could lead to aurora propagation at 50 Mhz and above.

Ironically, a bright comet is at the same time diving into the sun. The comet was recently discovered NASA's Solar and Heliospheric Observatory SWAN instrument. As such its been named "Comet SWAN."

The comet's death plunge or "swan dive" as some astronomers are calling it comes just as the sun has unleashed the strong flare. Because of

this some of the SOHO images of the comet are confused to some degree by energetic protons striking the camera's imaging sensor.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

For updates on this and other solar activity we suggest that you check spaceweather.com for the latest information. (Spaceweather, Space.com)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC AFFIRMS $25000 FINE FOR UNLICENSED SAN JOSE CA FM BROADCAST OPERATIONS

The FCC has affirmed a $25,000 Notice of Apparent Liability issued to Gabriel A. Garcia of San Jose, California. This for a 2010 series of unlicensed radio transmissions heard on 92.9 MHz, 93.7 and 104.3 MHz all traced to Garcia residences.

Garcia was issued four notices of unlicensed operation from the FCC before being issued the proposed fine in 2011. The base penalty in such cases is $10,000 but the agency has said that Garcia operated on multiple frequencies, on multiple occasions, and called his behavior particularly egregious. This because his transmissions allegedly interfered with the Aviation Radio Services band.

Garcia never responded to the proposed fine. Having not heard an appeal from him since issuing the NAL last March, the FCC now has finalized the $25,000 fine and given him the customary 30 days to pay. If he fails to do so the case may be referred to the Department of Justice for collection. (FCC)

**

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATION: FREQUENCY COORDINATION FOR 2012 POLITICAL CONVENTIONS COMMITTEE FORMED

Broadcast engineers have formed a committee to coordinate spectrum use at the Democratic and Republican conventions this summer. According to member Ray Benedict PolComm 2012 was formed in an effort to head off radio and TV personnel who may show up at the conventions and then try to use their wireless mics and two-way radios without first going through the frequency coordination process.

The Republican convention is Aug. 27th to the 30th in Tampa, Florida and the Democratic convention is September 3rd to the 6th in Charlotte, North Carolina. The committee says that it will seek a temporary rules waiver to allow TV Channels 14, 16 and 17 to be used as communication channels in Tampa and TV Channels 14, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 in Charlotte.

Broadcast engineering consultant Louis Libin is the PolComm 2012 chairman. Libin has chaired frequency coordination committees for past seven national political conventions. (RW)

**

NEW PRODUCTS: THE TALENT POD FROM HENRY ENGINEERING

A fascinating new piece of merchandise has come along that while not meant for ham radio, deserves a mention.

Henry Engineering, the California-based company owned by Hank Landsberg, WB6MEU, has come out with a broadcast product that could also be of interest to contesters, DX'ers as well as dedicated multi-operator stations such as during Field Day. Called the Talent Pod, the unit is a desktop local host controller for microphones and headphones that the company says solves audio problems often encountered when doing remote broadcasts.

Talent Pod is a mini-console made for use by an announcer. It gives that person full control of his or her mic and headphones. It lets the announcer turn the mic on and off and create a mix of local and return audio in the headphones. The mic button is illuminated and is visible in outdoor settings. A cough button momentarily mutes mic audio.

There are also two separate inputs for local and return audio, with a volume control for each. The operator can control the volume level and mix of the headphone audio.

To prevent confusion between the local and return audio, Talent Pod also has two pan switches, so the announcer can independently position the local and return audio in the center, left or right channel of the headphones.

As most hams involved in contesting and multi-op DXing will note, all of these functions could easily be adapted to use in an amateur radio multi operator station environment. All it takes is a bit of imagination. More information on the Talent Pod is on line at www.henryeng.com. (RW)

**

HAM RADIO HONORS: ARRL OPENS NOMINATIONS FOR SEVERAL AWARDS

The nomination period is now open for a number of ARRL awards that are designed to recognize educational and technological pursuits in Amateur Radio, as well as an award to honor a young Amateur Radio operator. These include the Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award for educators and the Hiram Percy Maxim Award is for a licensed radio amateur under age 21 to name only two. In all there are a half a dozen awards this year. For more information take your web browser to tinyurl.com/arrl-awards-2012 or contact Steve Ewald, by e-mail to wv1x (at) arrl (dot) org. (ARRL)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS WEEKEND REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

The International Museums Weekend special event operations will take place on the weekends of June 16th through the 17th and again on June 23rd and 24th. Radio amateurs are encouraged to participate in this event by setting up stations in their local museums.

The International Museums Weekend organizer Harry Bloomfield, M1BYT in Leeds in the U-K. He asks that all those intending to take part in the event to register their museum operation at www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw.

This is not only a fun event but one that permits you to showcase amateur radio to non-hams world wide. (WIA News)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: CELEBRATING THE MORSE CODE

New York's QSY Society Amateur Radio Club will be hosting a special event station at the Samuel F. B. Morse Estate at Locust Grove in the city of Poughkeepsie. This in celebration of his creation of the Morse Code in 1832. The operation will run from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Saturday April 14th using the special event callsign K2QS. Transmissions will be centered on 7.034 on 40 meters and 14.034 MHz on 20. Hams making contact with K2QS will be eligible for a special commutative QSL card. QSL requests go to David Ruth at 48 Hoof Print Road, Millbrook, New York, 12545. ((KB2VJP)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: STEVE FLETCHER G4RFC NAMED RSGB OLYMPIC FACILITATOR

Some names in the news. The Radio Society of Great Britain has announced that Steve Fletcher, G4RFC, has been appointed as the U-K national society's Olympic Facilitator. According to a press release, Fletcher will be drawing together all the information on radio amateur special events associated with the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games in the UK. S As such he wants to hear about any individual plans so the RSGB website can show who is doing what, when and where. Fletcher can be reached by e-mail to g4rfcinfo (at) yahoo (dot) co (dot)uk. (GB2RS)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: G6LVB TO SPEAK AT AMSAT-NA - TAPR HAMVENTION BANQUET

Howard Long, G6LVB will be the featured speaker at the 2012 AMSAT/TAPR Hamvention Banquet on Friday night, May 18th in Dayton, Ohio. Long will be talking about his FUNcube Dongle and the 64 to 1700 MHz Software Defined Receiver. Banquet tickets will not be sold at the AMSAT booth during the Hamvention therefore reservations must be made ahead of time through the AMSAT Store. Its located in cyberspace at tinyurl.com/amsat-na-store. Tickets are priced at $30 each. (ANS)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: K9EID UK AUDIO TALK POSTED TO YOUTUBE

And a talk about improving audio on the ham radio bands given by Bob Heil, K9EID, has been posted on-line by M3XYP. Recorded at the United Kingdom 2011 National Hamfest, the video is in five parts and can be found at www.youtube.com/user/m3xypsar/videos (M3XYP)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: PACIFIC DXER RON WRIGHT ZL1AMO S.K.

Another of those sad changing of the guard moments. This with word that the ham radio community has lost legendary Pacific DX'er and DXpeditioner Ron Wright, ZL1AMO.

Word went out two weeks ago that Wright had been admitted to the North Shore Hospital in New Zealand because of a collapsed lung but recovered. The last medical update noted that ZL1AMO was in stable condition.

According to reports, Wright was still in the hospital at the time of his death on March 6th. Services for ZL1AMO were to be held at the Morrison Fuenral Home in Henderson, New Zealand on Saturday March 10th. At the time of his passing Ron Wright, ZL1AMO, was age of 75. (OPDX, NZ Herald)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: CALL FOR SPEAKERS AT 2012 AMSAT UK SPACE COLLOQUIUM

A call has gone out for speakers for the AMSAT-UK 2012 International Space Colloquium. This years gathering will take on the weekend of September 15th to the 16th at the Holiday Inn, Guildford, England. Also being sought are papers for subsequent publishing on the AMSAT-UK web site.

Submissions should be sent via e-mail to david dot johnson at blackpepper dot co dot uk or to the postal address for G4DPZ found on QRZ dot com. More information on this event is on-line at www (dot) uk (dot) amsat (dot) org/colloquium/twelve.

This years Colloquium will take place only a few weeks prior to the planned launch of AMSAT-UK's FUNcube-1 ham radio satellite. (AMSAT-UK)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE COORDINATION FORMS REVISED

Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV, reports that the Amateur Satellite Frequency Coordination request form has been updated and is available for download from www.iaru.org/satellite. Also on the IARU satellite web page are a number of guideline documents which will assist satellite builders, including a document on the ITU requirements for amateur radio satellites. ZS6AKV is the IARU Satellite Advisor. (ZS6AKV)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT-NA RECEIVES OKJ TO RE-DISTRIBUTE KEPS

AMSAT's Ray Hoad, WA5QGD has announced that the organizations request to re-distribute US Air Force Space Command Keplerian elements from SpaceTrack has been approved for the period April 1, 2012 to April 1, 2013. AMSAT's request to distribute the orbital element data was approved on March 1st. (ANS, WA5QGD)

**

WORLDBEAT: RNW MEDIA NETWORK WEBLOG TO END MARCH 22

The Radio Netherlands Media Network Weblog will be closing for good at the end of the winter shortwave broadcast season on Saturday March 24th. This as the result of a new mandate by the the Holland-based broadcaster that effective on January 1, 2013, it will no longer be possible to provide coverage of international media news.

The Weblog is written and edited by Andy Sennitt and contains over 15,000 media news items published since October 2003. Sennitt says that it will remain online as a searchable archive. To prevent spam, it will no longer be possible to add comments, but the nearly 14,000 comments already received will still be available for viewing.

The last Media Network newsletter will be e-mailed to subscribers on March 22nd. (Media Network)

**

WORLDBEAT: GREECE TURNS OFF 11 MEDIUM WAVE TRANSMITTERS

The Administrative Board of the Greek Public Broadcaster has ordered the switch-off of eleven medium wave transmitters. This as a result of new austerity measures due to the financial situation being faced by that European nation. This leaves only nine medium wave transmitters with their respective Greek Public Radio programs in operation. The action was adopted by the Administrative Board after a meeting on February 17th. (GreekRadio.com)

**

RADIOSPORT: 2012 CQIR CONTEST CELECRATES IRTS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

>From the radiosports file, word that the CQIR contest is taking place at not long after this newscast goes to air. That being from mid-day on Saturday March 17th to mid-day on the 18th.

This years contest will be the international showpiece event for the Irish Radio Transmitters Society`s 80th anniversary celebration. Paul O'Kane, EI5DI, advises that his contest logger will be free and unrestricted for the contest. Also that his SD may be downloaded from ei5di.com.

CQIR entrants should be aware that the Russian DX contest overlaps with it. You can easily tell the difference between the two in that Russian stations will send a 2 character district code instead of a serial report as used in the CQIR competition.

Full rules for the CQIR contest are available on-line at www.irts.ie. (IRTS)

**

DX

2E1EUB, will once again be active as from Eastern Scotland as 2M1EUB for 7 days beginning March 24th. He will be located in the Cairngorms National Park operating on 160 and 80 meters and several ham satellites. QSL as directed under 2M1EUB on QRZ.com.

The current XW1A and XWOZJZ operations from Laos have been approved for DXCC credit. Bill Moore, NC1L, who heads up the DXCC Desk at ARRL headquarters made the approval official on Tuesday, March 13th.

EI7CC will be on the air from Lesotho as 7P8PB through April 3rd. Activity will be holiday style and he will operate when circumstances permit. QSL via EI7CC, either direct or via the bureau. Logs will be uploaded to Logbook of the World immediately after his return to Ireland.

A large group from Germany and Poland plan to be active from the Pacific island of Tonga until March 24th. They are using the callsign is A35YZ. QSL via DL7DF.

Down the road a bit comes word that DK9FN will once again return to Temotu Province be active as H40FN between this December 22nd and January 7th of 2013. QSL H40FN via HA8DD. More details will be forthcoming.

Lastly comes news that F4CYZ will be operational from Morocco as CN2YZ through years end. His activity will be from the city of Tangier and especially on the weekends. The Mediterraneo DX Club is supporting his activities and is also providing a Web site with a log-check. Its in cyberspace at www.mdxc.org/cn2yz.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: BILL BEFORE CONGRESS TO LET ASTRONAUTS KEEP SPACE SOUVENIRS

And finally this week, a dispute between NASA and some former astronauts over ownership of space artifacts has led to a bill in Congress that would give the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo astronauts "full ownership rights." This, to items such as checklists and personal logs from their missions. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, has the rest of the story:

--

Known as H.R. 4158 the proposed legislation grows out of an effort last year by Apollo 13 Commander Jim Lovell to sell the lunar module activation checklist that had been used to convert the moon lander into a space lifeboat on the periled 1970 Apollo 13 mission. The sale brought record-setting $388,375 but it was put on hold after the National Aeronautics and Space Administration demanded proof that the former astronaut owned the item.

Now comes H.R. 4158 that was introduced by Representative Ralph Hall of Texas. Hall is the chairman of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee. He measures cosponsor was Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson, also of Texas. It has since amassed an additional fifteen cosponsors.

In a letter to heir congressional colleagues the two key sponsors wrote that the legislation would allow the first generation of astronauts to retain spaceflight artifacts that have been in their possession. In many cases for more than 40 years.

Under the proposed measure, astronauts from the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo programs would be allowed to keep items such as personal logs and checklists. The only thing off limits would be rock samples gathered on those early lunar missions. The so-called ?_oMoon Rocks.?__

After meeting with Lovell and several other former astronauts last month, NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said that these are American heroes. He called them fellow astronauts and personal friends who have acted in good faith. As such, Bolden says that they are committed to working together to find the right policy and legal paths forward to address outstanding ownership questions.

H.R. 4158 has bi-partisan support and is expected to make it all the way through the Congressional rule making process.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in New Orleans.

--

This was not the first time that NASA has challenged the sale by an astronaut of a piece of space memorabilia. In 2010, NASA challenged Apollo 14 astronaut Edgar Mitchell's attempt to sell a camera he took to the moon. Mitchell eventually agreed to donate the camera to the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. (collectspace.com; physorg.com, others)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, on Florida's Sunshine Coast saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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66. QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-18 02:06:13 UTC
From: DrTeeth <no-email@tardis.com>
Message-ID: <5fbam75loubr3596bltkpcb75ff4cs1pdu@4ax.com>
Source record: 485

Hi guys,

Could you tell me what sort of wattage a soldering iron needs to have
to cope with soldering co-ax into PL509s?

TIA
--

Cheers

DrT

We may not be able to prevent the stormy times in
our lives; but we can always choose to dance
in the puddles (Jewish proverb).

67. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-18 02:25:00 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <cktf39-o0k.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 486

>Hi guys,
>
>Could you tell me what sort of wattage a soldering iron needs to have
>to cope with soldering co-ax into PL509s?

The PL509 is a vacuum tube... I assume you mean a PL-259 "UHF" connector?

They need a good deal of heat delivered, due to the large metal mass.
A small iron will heat the connector slowly... by the time you manage
to make a solder bond, the cable itself will have been heated up a lot
and there can be problems with the dielectric melting. An iron with
higher wattage (and/or lots of mass, well heated) can make a quicker
job of it and let you make the solder joint more quickly.

I've had the best luck with a full-sized Weller soldering iron (the
140/200 watt variety). I think I recall doing one or two with a
Weller WTCP iron using a large tip, but it wasn't easy. Butane-fired
portable soldering irons are another possibility... some of these can
deliver a lot of heat.

Another possibility is to hold the connector and cable in place with a
clamping arrangement somehow, pre-heat the connector with a hot-air
gun (a hair dryer will do) and then finish the job with a
smaller-wattage soldering iron. By preheating the connector you
reduce its tendency to sink heat away from area that you're trying to
solder.

There are some alternative PL-259 connectors, which use a crimper and
a proper die set rather than soldering. See the discussion at
http://www.eham.net/articles/19257 for a look-see. A properly-done
crimp can be just as permanent as a solder junction... sometimes
better.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

68. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-19 05:56:28 UTC
From: DrTeeth <no-email@tardis.com>
Message-ID: <499cm7lq3cdbmuh0vrsl6cbtf2ng3p31k3@4ax.com>
Source record: 487

On Sat, 17 Mar 2012 22:25:00 EDT, just as I was about to take a herb,
dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt) disturbed my reverie and wrote:

>The PL509 is a vacuum tube... I assume you mean a PL-259 "UHF" connector?
<slaps head> Of course, you are correct.

Thanks for the help,

de G4DWV, 4X1LT
--

Cheers

DrT

_____
We may not be able to prevent the stormy times in
our lives; but we can always choose to dance
in the puddles (Jewish proverb).

69. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-19 16:10:20 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <jk7lp6hle1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 488

On 3/17/2012 10:06 PM, DrTeeth wrote:
> Hi guys,
>
> Could you tell me what sort of wattage a soldering iron needs to have
> to cope with soldering co-ax into PL509s?

I've never had luck with irons: I use a soldering gun. The Weller 140 watt model works OK.

If you have the choice, I recommend switching to BNC or N connectors: they're much easier to assemble, and have far less loss.

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

70. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-20 04:14:54 UTC
From: DrTeeth <no-email@tardis.com>
Message-ID: <ea3fm7tnjt8vgpeulr55njb43vh8gcj6gf@4ax.com>
Source record: 489

On Mon, 19 Mar 2012 12:10:20 EDT, just as I was about to take a herb,
Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> disturbed my reverie and wrote:

>I've never had luck with irons: I use a soldering gun. The Weller 140
>watt model works OK.

Thanks Bill, it is on my shopping list ;-).
--

Cheers

DrT

_____
We may not be able to prevent the stormy times in
our lives; but we can always choose to dance
in the puddles (Jewish proverb).

71. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-20 04:15:44 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <76948a5d-b769-44c7-beca-4284aba099de@hv2g2000vbb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 490
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On Mar 19, 11:10 am, Bill Horne wrote:
>
> If you have the choice, I recommend switching to BNC or N connectors:
> they're much easier to assemble, and have far less loss.

Hadn't thought about the loss perspective. I don't care for the PL-259's tendency to not make good connection on the pin after a few insert cycles and I hear that N connectors are a bit better. But I've not considered BNC, at least for HF work. I use them on VHF/UHF but my power levels are well under 50W and SWR's are all fairly reasonable (under 3:1).

Am I safe using BNC at 100W on HF with SWR's in the 5:1 range? What is the breakdown voltage of a BNC connector?

-= Bob =-

72. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-20 22:08:35 UTC
From: DrTeeth <no-email@tardis.com>
Message-ID: <slthm71cr572253hkckle11385orqms6kj@4ax.com>
Source record: 491

On Tue, 20 Mar 2012 00:15:44 EDT, just as I was about to take a herb,
KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com> disturbed my reverie and wrote:

>But I've
>not considered BNC, at least for HF work.

Though it may be an impure thought, but don't HF commercial rigs all
have SO 259s? Are adaptors available?
--

Cheers

DrT

We may not be able to prevent the stormy times in
our lives; but we can always choose to dance
in the puddles (Jewish proverb).

73. Get Ready: Digital QST is Coming Soon

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-21 12:54:49 UTC
From: ARRL <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120320150738.65FC120EE6@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 492
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

Coming Soon: NEW ARRL Membership Benefits

Dear <Member>

We are excited to announce two new ARRL membership benefits that will be introduced in June 2012.

In addition to the print copy of QST, all members will have access to an online, digital edition of QST at no extra cost. You will be able to access QST from anywhere--on nearly any computer, laptop, mobile device, smartphone and tablet (including Apple iPad, iPhone, and devices using the Android operating system).

Also in June, members will gain access to archived issues of QST from December 1915 to the present (previously, only issues through 2007 were available to members). If you are familiar with the current periodicals archive (which serves images of pages), that platform will be expanded to include all of QST from December 1915 through December 2011. A second, new archive will be introduced for issues beginning January 2012, featuring enhanced functionality including full-text search.

Be Prepared!

Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access the current digital edition of QST and archived editions. For a smooth launch of these exciting new benefits, and so that you will be able to quickly access the digital version of QST as soon it becomes available, we are e-mailing you some information that will help you login to the ARRL website prior to launch.

Login Instructions

Please follow these personalized, step-by-step directions below to login to the ARRL website:

- Go to www.arrl.org
- At the top, center of the page in "Site Login", enter your Username: and the password you selected during registration.

Forgot Password?

If you have forgotten your password, here are some steps to help you obtain a temporary password which you can use to Login. We recommend writing this temporary password down prior to logging in, then Login using your username and the temporary password.

Select "Forgot Password" on the Login page

- To reset your password by e-mail:

1. Select "By Email" from the dropdown menu
2. Enter your Username: and e-mail address. You must use the email address that you used to originally register for a website login account.
3. Click "Submit"

- To reset your password by member credentials:

1. Select "By Member Credentials" from the drop down menu
2. Enter your Username:
3. Enter your Member ID:
4. Enter your Call Sign OR Last name
5. Click "Submit"

Once you are logged in, select "Edit your Profile" to change your password to something you can more easily remember.

Questions?

Contact Member Services by email circulation@arrl.org or by telephone 860-594-0200 or 888-277-5289 (US only).

ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio
225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494 USA
www.arrl.org

74. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-22 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1332396001@panix.com>
Source record: 493
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

75. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-22 06:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1332396300@panix.com>
Source record: 494
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

76. The ARRL Letter for March 22, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-22 19:23:20 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120322185816.776DC22D9E@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 495
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

```
**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

March 22, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + New ARRL Membership Benefits Coming in June
- + ARRL Announces New DXCC Fee Structure
- + 2012 National Hurricane Conference to Feature Amateur Radio
Activities
- + On the Air: Special Event Stations Planned for London 2012 Olympic
and Paralympic Games
- + Executive Committee to Meet this Weekend in Missouri
- Solar Update
- + TAPR Opens "Interest List" for Hermes SDR
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + NEW ARRL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS COMING IN JUNE

The ARRL is excited to announce two new membership benefits that
will be introduced in June 2012. In addition to the print copy of QST,
all members will have access to an online digital edition of QST -- at
no extra cost. You will be able to access QST from anywhere -- on
nearly any computer, laptop, mobile device, smartphone and tablet
(including Apple iPad, iPhone, iTouch and devices using the Android
operating system). Members will also gain access to archived issues of
QST from December 1915 to the present; previously, only issues through
2007 were available to members. If you are familiar with the current
periodicals archive, that platform will be expanded to include all of
QST from December 1915 through December 2011. A second, new archive
will be introduced for issues beginning January 2012, featuring
enhanced functionality including full-text search. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/coming-soon-new-arrl-membership-benefits>.

==> + ARRL ANNOUNCES NEW DXCC FEE STRUCTURE
```

The DX Century Club (DXCC) is the premier Amateur Radio operating award. Available to hams around the world, tens of thousands of awards have been issued since 1945 under the modern award program. In 2012, the DXCC program is not only still thriving, but it is growing, both in participation and in numbers of award options. The addition of Logbook of the World and soon, the addition of an Online DXCC Application utility, will continue to help the program grow. Effective Monday, April 2, the way DXCC fees are assessed will change. These changes will include both rate increases and rate decreases. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-announces-new-dxcc-fee-structure>.

==> + 2012 NATIONAL HURRICANE CONFERENCE TO FEATURE AMATEUR RADIO ACTIVITIES

The National Hurricane Conference -- scheduled for March 26-29 in Orlando, Florida -- will feature several Amateur Radio activities. The National Hurricane Conference leadership continues to recognize the valuable contributions of Amateur Radio and has invited several radio amateurs to participate in two sessions. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/2012-national-hurricane-conference-to-feature-amateur-radio-activities>.

==> + ON THE AIR: SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS PLANNED FOR LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Some special event call signs will be activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games: 2O12L from London, England and 2O12W from Barry, Wales. The London 2012 Inspire program has granted the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) -- Great Britain's IARU Member-Society -- use of the "Inspire mark" for these stations. Both stations will be on-the-air for the duration of the Games, July 27-August 12. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/special-event-stations-planned-for-london-2012-olympic-and-paralympic-games>.

==> + EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO MEET THIS WEEKEND IN MISSOURI

The ARRL Executive Committee will meet Saturday, March 24 in St Louis, Missouri. Agenda items include a review of the ARRL policy on repeater coordination, a look at how the mandated study on Amateur Radio -- as outlined in Section 6414 in the just-passed payroll tax legislation -- will be implemented, the first periodic review of the National Broadband Plan Committee report, discussion of the proposed changes to the FCC's rules as set forth in report from the ARRL Electromagnetic Compatibility Committee and more . ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, serves as chairman of the Executive Committee. Click here <http://www.arrl.org/news/executive-committee-to-meet-this-weekend-in-missouri> for more information, including a link to the meeting's agenda.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "The Sun has long been set
<http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/21699>" Cook, K7RA, reports:
Solar activity declined this week - the average daily sunspot numbers
were off by more than 13 points to 75.1, while the average daily solar
flux dropped more than 32 points to 102.1. Solar flux values have also
dropped below 100 for the past two days; they are expected to remain
there until March 28. The next short-term peak in solar flux is
expected at the 135 level for April 3-6. The predicted solar flux for
March 22 is 95. On March 23-26, expect 90, then 95, 100 and 100 on
March 27-29, 130 on March 30-April 2, then 135 on April 3-6, and 130,
120, 115 and 105 on April 7-10, and 100 on April 11-15. The predicted
planetary A index is 7 on March 22, 5 on March 23-27, 10 on March 28, 8
on March 29-31, 5 on April 1-2, 8 on April 3-4, 5 on April 5-9, then
12, 5, 5, 15 and 10 on April 10-14, and 5 again on April 15-23. Look
for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, March 23. For more
information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical
Information Service Propagation page
<http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad
Cookism" is brought to you by William Wordsworth's The Sun Has Long
Been Set <http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/21699>.

==> + TAPR OPENS "INTEREST LIST" FOR HERMES SDR

Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) announces the opening of the
"interest list" for the openHPSDR Hermes single-board Software Defined
Radio. The Hermes interest list is used by TAPR to determine the number
of Hermes boards to manufacture in the pending initial production run
this spring. Hermes is a long-awaited addition to the openHPSDR project
lineup, advancing through four prototypes while evolving from a
USB-based to an Ethernet-based transceiver in about two years. Hermes
is a Direct-Down-Conversion receiver, a Direct-Up-Conversion 500 mW
transmitter and a gigabit Ethernet interface all on one board. Also on
board is an RF-quiet switch-mode power supply, which allows Hermes to
run from a single 13.8 V dc source. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/tapr-opens-interest-list-for-hermes-sdr>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- March 24-25 -- CQ WW WPX Contest (SSB)
- March 26 -- QRP Homebrewer Sprint
- March 28 -- SKCC Sprint
- March 28-29 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- March 31-April 1 -- Missouri QSO Party
- April 1 -- UBA Spring Contest (SSB)
- April 3 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest

Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- March 23-24 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-2>, Lewiston,
Maine
- April 7 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-1>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 14 -- ARRL Delta Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delta-division-convention-3>, Bartlett,
Tennessee
- April 14-15 -- Communications Academy 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2012>, Seattle,
Washington
- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho;
63rd International DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>,
Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radi
o-electronics-expo-1>,
Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe,
Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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Subscribe to NCJ -- the National Contest Journal
<http://www.arrl.org/ncj>. Published bi-monthly, features articles by
top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#%21/edit-info-email_subscripti
ons>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

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77. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1806 - March 23 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-23 09:00:18 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120323090003.4C30533C57@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 496
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1806 - March 23 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1806 with a release date of March 23rd, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham radio and social networks respond following an earthquake in Mexico; an A-P-R-S equipped ocean buoy is released off the coast of Alaska; Missouri hams could be hit hard by a proposed distracted driving law; London Olympic ham radio stations are announced and the birds are back. Find out what we mean on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1806 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAM RADIO AND SOCIAL NETWORKS RESPOND TO MEXICO EARTHQUAKE

Amateur radio operators and the social media have responded in the wake of an earthquake that hit Southwest Mexico on March 20th. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with what we know so far:

--

What has been described as a powerful and prolonged earthquake rocked parts of Mexico on Tuesday, March 20th. The 7.6 magnitude temblor near the Pacific Coast resort town of Acapulco. According to news reports, some homes were toppled near the quakes epicenter. Electricity and telephone communications was lost for a time. But despite the quake's power, Mexico's President Felipe Calderon and officials across the country said that there were no reports of serious injuries.

While there was some damage to the nation's internal communications infrastructure, Mexico's connection with the outside world for the most part remained unscathed. So far nothing has been heard about activation of any domestic Mexican ham radio emergency group. As we go to air, the only international ham radio operation we have heard about is a group called the International Radio Emergency Support Coalition. IRESC President, Urcun Canel, TA0U, in Istanbul, Turkey worked with about 8 or 9 hams in Mexico passing early damage assessment reports to the European continent. Some of this communications audio was posted to Facebook:

--

Actuality audio communications. Hear it by downloading the MP3 audio file of this newscast at www.arnewsline.org

--

You can hear the entire communications session at tinyurl.com/iresc-mexico-quake. But the real story in this case is the response by the people in the affected areas.

While telephone and cellphone service was jammed as is the case after events like this, broadband connections were still open and quite useful. Anyone watching or listening to broadcast news reports often heard tweets from residents of the quake hit area being quoted as news sources and giving short eye-witness assessments via Twitter.

Also, broadcast news organizations world-wide were asking people with relatives in the quake zone to call in or post to the stations website the latest news they might have. In other words, news organizations were literally handling health and welfare traffic that until a year or two ago was primarily the domain of radio amateurs involved in emergency communications.

Quite a change from day's gone bye.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

More in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (ARNewsline, published news reports with audio from IRESC Facebook posting)

**

RESCUE RADIO: CONNECTICUT ARES FRONT AND CENTER ON EMCOMM PREPAREDNESS

The role of amateur radio in emergency communications continues to grow and will become even more vital in the future. That was the message from Connecticut Section Emergency Coordinator, Wayne Gronlund, N1CLV, at the annual meeting of that states ARES groups over the weekend of March 17th and 18th.

According to Gronlund, a series of natural disasters in 2011 showcased the importance of amateur radio in emergency situations. These included tropic storm Irene, a pre-season nor'easter in October, and the tornadoes that swept western Massachusetts last summer.

Illustrating his remarks with a Power Point presentation, N1CLV noted that the snowstorm in particular strained the system because phone and electrical service were disrupted for up to two weeks. Especially in the Farmington area.

These two disasters led to formation of Governor Deniel Malloy's two-storm study inquiry. Among the panel's recommendations is holding a real time training exercise this year. One that would involve municipalities, the Red Cross and ARES to determine what assets are

available and what improvement is needed.

Such a state-wide exercise is now scheduled for July 28th to the 30th and will involve amateur radio resources. More is on the web at tinyurl.com/ct-rescue-radio. (Hartford Examiner)

**

LEGAL HAPPENINGS: PROPOSED MISSOURI DISTRACTED DRIVING LAW HAS NO EXEMPTIONS FOR ANYONE

Missouri drivers including hams, C-B operators, emergency response personnel and even someone just tuning a vehicles A-M radio could find themselves standing before a judge. This if a new distracted driving law is enacted as proposed to that states legislature. Matthew Chambers, NR0Q is here with the rather strange details:

--

If you were to get pulled over this morning and told that you were getting a ticket for distracted driving because you took a sip of coffee during your morning commute would you be surprised. If a Missouri Senate Bill written by Senator Bill Stouffer, of Saline County passes, this is what Missouri drivers could be facing.

Senate Bill 717 would make it a class C misdemeanor to "Fail[s] to give full time and attention to the operation of the motor vehicle; Fail[s] to maintain a proper lookout while operating a motor vehicle; or Engage[s] in any other activity which causes the operator to be distracted from the primary mission of driving such motor vehicle."

There are no exemptions for hands-free devices, two-way or CB type radios, or for operators of emergency vehicles or law enforcement personnel. If passed as written, the police officer writing a ticket to enforce this would most likely also have to write themselves a ticket for distracted driving as well.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Matthew Chambers, NR0Q near Macon, Missouri.

--

While it may sound funny to think of a police officer having to cite himself for using his departments radio communications system, it might one day happen in the "show me" state. The rather short but complete text of this proposed law is on-line at tinyurl.com/mo-distracted-driving. (NR0Q)

**

RADIO RESEARCH: ICE GOAT 1 APRS BUOY GOES TO SEA OFF ALASKA COAST

A group of Oceanography and Aeronautical engineering students from the U-S Naval Academy have deployed a radio equipped ocean buoy rigged to monitor weather in the harsh conditions of the arctic. Named Ice Goat

1, the buoy was placed off of the coast of Point Barrow, Alaska. Once the winter ice melts the buoy will begin its sea voyage.

In addition to its scientific monitoring gear, Ice Goat 1 carries an APRS beacon operating on 145.825 MHz. The position packets can be relayed via the International Space Station digipeater. However, as the ISS only rises 1.5 degrees above the horizon at arctic latitudes reports of direct reception of the 145.825 MHz beacon are being sought from any Alaskan, and eventually Pacific Northwest amateur radio stations that may be in range of Ice Goat 1. Reception reports go by me-mail to wb4apr(at) amsat (dot) org. (AMSAT, WB4APR)

**

RADIOSPORTS: LONDON OLYMPIC COMMEMORATIVE HAM RADIO STATIONS ANNOUNCED

Some special event call-signs will be activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The London station, 2012L will be active through the duration of the games. It will be located at the historic Eltham Palace, south-east London on and will operate all modes on 160 through 2 meters. More information about it is on the web at www.2O12L.com.

The Welsh station 2O12W will be operational on all bands from 160 meters through 23 centimeters and all modes including SSTV and satellites. It will be located at Whitmore Bay, on Barry Island, More information on the web at www.2O12W.com

2O12L and 2O12W will go on the air July on 27th. The Radio Society of Great Britain has been granted use of the games Inspire trdemark for these stations. Special QSL cards will be available to all stations contacted. (G4IRN)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WA4TEP repeater serving Greenville North Carolina.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO RULES: TOWERS VS. BIRDS - CATS GET THE BLAME

The birds are back. New interim regulatory procedures will take effect soon for certain new towers to address bird kills. Yet the issue remains a sensitive one for many people in broadcasting, two-way radio and others who own and maintain tall lighted tower structures. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the details:

--

A new report from the FCC is likely to be scrutinized by anyone involved in the debate. Among its assertions is that by best estimate communications tower strikes by avian creatures do kill 6.6 million birds a year in the United States. Even so, while proposed regulatory changes may affect the total somewhat, bird deaths from towers are, and will remain, only a tiny fraction of bird deaths from all causes.

The report also notes that while communications towers contribute to the overall adverse impacts of all human activities on bird populations, communications tower collisions are only responsible for approximately 0.3 percent of the more than 2 billion annual bird deaths that currently occur due to cats and other predators. In addition, these deaths occur against a backdrop of high natural mortality to migrating birds due to a number of factors. Although the absolute number of birds killed at communications towers is large, towers are a relatively minor contributor to total human-caused avian mortality, and the impact of these deaths is likely even smaller when considered in the context of high natural mortality.

These findings are part of a Federal Communications Commission report assessing the environmental impacts of its Antenna Structure Registration System. The report was prepared by the Maryland based firm the URS Group for the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

The report is likely to continue the ongoing debate over what the permanent tower registration rules and procedures should be. You can read the details at tinyurl.com/The-Final-PEA. (FCC, CGC, RW)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC SEEKS INPUT ON EMERGENCY SHUTOFF OF CELLULAR SERVICE

The FCC wants to know how you feel about the government or private enterprises using its ability to order a shutdown of broadband communications systems in times of emergencies or perceived emergencies. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, reports:

--

The Federal Communications Commission's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau are jointly seeking comment on issues related to intentional interruptions of Commercial Mobile Radio Service by government authorities for matters deemed in the interest of public safety. The issue stems from Bay Area Rapid Transit's shut-down of cellular telephone service on August 11th of last year in the face of political and social protests taking place in the San Francisco area.

According to General Docket Number 12-52, any intentional interruption of wireless service, no matter how brief or localized, raises

significant concerns and implicates substantial legal and policy questions. The service interruption last summer drew sharp criticism, and state and local governments have recently grappled with how to address possible future events.

The FCC says that it is concerned that there has been insufficient discussion, analysis, and consideration of the questions raised by intentional interruptions of wireless service by government authorities. As a result, Docket 12-52 seeks comment on the legal constraints and policy considerations that bear on an intentional interruption of wireless service by government agencies for the purpose of ensuring public safety.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

General Docket Number 12-52 caries a commentary cutoff date of April 30th and a reply comment date of May 30th. The entire text is on line in Adobe PDF format at tinyurl.com/turn-off-cellphones.

(FCC)

**

REGULATION: CLERICAL ERROR LEADS FCC REQUESTS MODIFICATION OF HAWAII HAMS LICENSE

In one of those awkward "oops someone goofed moments," the FCC has been forced to issue an order that proposes modifying the license of Todd Wilson, WH6DWF, of Honolulu, Hawaii, from General to Technician.

No, Wilson did nothing wrong. In fact he appears to simply be the innocent victim of a clerical error by the administering Volunteer Examiner. It happened this way:

Back in November of 2011, the ARRL V-E-C sent an electronic data file to the FCC, requesting that the agency issue a Wilson a General class license which it did. A few weeks later in January 2012, the ARRL V-E-C notified the FCC that Wilson's information was incorrect and he did not qualify for a General class license. The ARRL V-E-C also requested that the FCC to modify Wilson's license to show him as a Technician class license holder.

On March 15, the FCC issued an Order of Proposed Modification, seeking to change Wilson's license class from General to Technician. In its order the FCC said that granting General class amateur radio privileges to Wilson had been improper. That the grant of General class operator privileges to Wilson was erroneous because he was not eligible to receive examination credit for one of the elements an applicant must pass in order to be granted a General class operator license. Rather, he appears to be currently authorized to operate with General class operator privileges due to an error made during the application

process.

But it may not be over yet. Under the law, Wilson has until April 14th to appeal the modification order by submitting a written statement containing sufficient evidence to show that the modification would not be in the public interest. If he fails to do so, the license modification back to Technician class will come into effect. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: A SECOND $25000 FINE ISSUED TO AN UNLICENSED CALIFORNIA BROADCASTER

In what may well be a time record between FCC actions, the Commission has reaffirmed a second $25,000 fine against California resident Gabriel Garcia. This time for not allowing a commission inspection of various unlicensed radio stations in the San Jose area.

As reported last week, in May 2011, the Enforcement Bureau's San Francisco office originally issued a $25,000 penalty because it said Garcia was operating illegal stations on three frequencies in the San Jose area and apparently interfering with the Aviation Radio Services band. The commission said that Garcia did not respond to the notice, so the fine has now progressed into a Notice of Forfeiture.

Now the FCC has affirmed the second $25,000 forfeiture based on Garcia's refusal to give its inspectors access to the properties from which the stations were allegedly operating. This, to permit physical inspection of the equipment being used.

If Garcia fails to pay the two fines in the allotted 30 days each, the matters will likely be turned over to the Department of Justice for collection. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC INVESTIGATING 450 - 470 MHZ INTERFERENCE IN PA

The FCC has issued a Notice of Unauthorized Operation and of Interference to Licensed Radio Stations to a pair of Lurgan, Pennsylvania residents. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, is here with the details:

--

In a letter to the unnamed parties, the North-East Region Enforcement Bureau in Philadelphia stated that it had received a complaint from a licensed telecommunications provider of interference in the 450 to 470 MHz band. Also, that they had traced the interference to a radio transmitting device operating in Lurgan, Pennsylvania.

On February 17th agents confirmed by direction finding that the source of the interference was emanating from a residence in Lurgan. During an equipment inspection, agents confirmed that the device causing the

interference was designed to jam radio transmissions.

In its letter to the Lurgan residents, the FCC notified them that unauthorized operation of a radio transmitting device designed to jam radio communications must cease immediately. It warned them that the continued operation of such a device may result in seizure of the offending equipment and/or a court order prohibiting them from operating such devices. Also that this type of unauthorized operation could subject them to substantial monetary forfeitures and criminal sanctions including imprisonment.

The two people involved in this matter were given 10 days from receipt of the notice to provide information regarding the entity from whom they purchased the device, including copies of any receipts or invoices. They were also given the opportunity to respond with any other information that they believe relevant to the notice.

Fr the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Hpwell, KB3TZD, not far away in Berwyck, Pennsylvania.

--

The two Lurgan residents were also advised that the Notice of Unauthorized Operation they received or their response to it would not preclude the FCC from pursuing additional sanctions based upon its investigation of this incident. (FCC Northeast Enforcement Bureau)

**

RADIO READING WINTER 2012 TAPR PSR JOURNAL NOW ON LINE

The Winter issue of the free Tucson Amateur Packet Radio P-S-R Journal is now available to download. This quarterly publication is full of technical, non-technical and user digital information and articles. You can download the free winter 2012 PSR from tapr.org/psr/psr117.pdf. Previous issues are also available free from the Tucson Amateur Packet Radio website at tapr.org/psr.html. (TAPR)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: CHELMSFORD NAMED UK BIRTHPLACE OF RADIO

The United Kingdom now has a city named as the birthplace of radio. At least in that nation. Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, is here with the details:

--

Chelmsford, acknowledged as the birthplace of radio and home to the Marconi Company for many years, is one of three new cities created to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

This year also marks the 100th anniversary of the establishment by Marconi of the first purpose built radio factory in New Street, Chelmsford in 1912. New Street is marked with a blue plaque noting the historic significance.

And this comes to you from G4NJH in Nottingham.

--

As an asaide, for those who never heard the term the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, this will be an extended weekend from June 2nd to the 5th to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth the 2nd. The Queen came to the throne on February 6, 1952 and her coronation took place on June 2nd 1953. (RSGB)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: HAMSAT VO-52 RECOVERY SUCCESSFUL

Some good news about the HAMSAT VO-52 ham radio satellite. A report received from the ISRO Satellite Centre in Bangalore, India on March 14 says HAMSAT is back on the air and operating properly.

According to VU2WMY commands to reactivate Dutch-built PE1RAH orbital transponder on HAMSAT were sent during an ascending pass over India. The commands were acknowledged and confirmed by return telemetry. At the same time the beacon signal was heard loud and strong in Bangalore.

Stations in Europe and North America reported good signals from VO-52 immediately after the transponder was activated. Two-way contacts were soon completed through the HAMSAT VO-52 transponder. (VU2WMY)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NEW HAM-SAT GROUP FORMED IN CUBA

Hector Martinez, CO6CBF reports that the Cuban Amateur Radio Federation has created its first official Satellite Group. CO6CBF says that he along with CM2ESP and CO7WT worked to form the group and made the formal recognition request to the Federation headquarters that was approved on March 3rd.

The official name of the organization is the Grupo de Radioaficionados para Operaciones Satelitales. Its principal mission is to promote amateur radio by satellites in Cuba and motivate Cuban hams to operate on the satellites. Its first meeting is being planned for Havana in the not to distant future.

(CO6CBF)

**

ON THE AIR: UK MUSEUM STATION TO COMMEMORATE SINKING OF THE TITANIC

Special event station GB100MGY will be on air from April 6th to the 26th. This to mark the 100th anniversary of sinking of the Titanic in 1912.

This operation will take place from the Fort Perch Rock Marine Radio Museum at New Brighton in the UK. In addition to the regular HF bands the planners of GB100MGY have received special permission from UK telecommunications regulator Ofcom to use the callsign on 502 kHz. If you do not have gear to transmit on 502 kHz, crossband QSO's will be available to 3.566 or 7.066 Mhz from April 12th to the 18th as propagation permits.

For more information on this special event operation, please take your web browser to www.fortperchrockmarineradiomuseum.co.uk. (Via e-mail)

**

RADIOSPORTS: WORLD-WIDE IRON HAM CONTEST RESCHEDULED TO DECEMBER

The World-Wide Iron Ham Contest, which was originally planned to take place in June, has now been re-scheduled. In order to avoid having two South American contests in the same day the Araucaria Dx Group decided to move the Iron Ham competition to the last full weekend in December. As a result, the World-Wide Iron Ham Contest will begin on Saturday December 29th at 12:00 UTC and end on Sunday December 30th at 11:59 UTC. More on this event in both English and Portugese is on line at www.araucariadx.com/ih. (PY5EG)

**

DX

In DX, The Buddies in the Caribbean mini-DXpedition group will be operational from Montserrat between April 8th to the 16th, with a new group of operators who have never experienced the other side of a pileup. Because of severe baggage limits on the flight from Antigua to Montserrat they will be limited to low power radios and Buddipole portable antenna systems. There will be several villa stations in operation on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY or PSK. At the same time, several teams will be battery-only, field portable either from Montserrat beaches or scenic mountain tops. QSL via Logbook of the World, eQSL, or mail to the operator's home callsign.

DL7BC will be active from slas FH from Mayotte Island March 20th to 6th. Please QSL as directed on the air.

WA2YUN is currently operational portable KH9 from Wake Island and will be active another year or more. Activity is on the Nigh Frequency bands including 160 and 80 meters. He has also been active on 6 meters. QSL via K2PF.

F4DTO and F4GFE will be active from Albania as ZA100I between April 22nd to the 29th. Operations will be on 40 through 10 meters on SSB only. QSL via F4DTO, direct or by the bureau.

Members of the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society and the 9M4SDX Team will be active as 9M0L from Pulau Layang Layang Island, East Malaysia, between April 10th and the 24th. The team will have 4 stations using Spider Beam antennas. QSL direct to the 9M0L Team Penang, PO BOX 125, GPO 10710, Penang Island, Malaysia or by the bureau to Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter's Society.

Lastly, W7GJ and ZL1RS will once again team up to do a 6 and 2 meter EME DXpedition to Niue between September 9th and the 21st, W7GJ will use the callsign ZK2GJ, while ZL1RS will probably use his old callsign of ZK2RS. QSL ZK2GJ via W7GJ and ZK2RS via ZL1RS direct only.

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: CREATING THE HAM RADIO TRIATHLON CONTEST

And finally this week, a new radiosporting event will begin in 2013. And it has its roots in sports history. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, is here with the details:

--

It all started back in August of 2011. That was about when it occurred to Mike Balaskas, SV5BYR of Dodcanese, Greece, that a big Greek sponsored radiosport event was missing from international ham radio contest calendar. By the end of that September Balaskas' idea had matured and so the Ham Radio Triathlon Contest was born.

For those of you who do not follow the world of sports, a triathlon involves completion of three continuous and sequential endurance events. And as you have already guessed, it is a Greek word.

But unlike the world of athletics, those planning the Ham Radio Triathlon DX Contest had to change things a bit to make this activity become reality. In trying to simulate the original Triathlon athletic event, planners chose three major ham radio modes for the competition. For the initial outing these will be SSB, CW and RTTY.

The Ham Radio Triathlon will be a 24 hour non-stop event that will take place the fist full weekend of February. It will debut next year on Saturday, February 2nd of 2013. And from what we have read of the proposed rules winning this one won't be easy but it sure looks like a lot of fun.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Norm Seeley, KI7UP, on this side of the Atlantic and the Western part of the United States reporting from Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

SV5BYR says that there is still a lot of work to be done and more details to be announced. We suggest that you keep an eye on triathlon-dx-contest.blogspot.com in the coming months to learn more. (SV5BYR)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm David Black, KB4KCH, at the Southeast Bureau in Birmingham Alabama saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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78. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-25 18:37:55 UTC
From: Channel Jumper <Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com>
Message-ID: <Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com>
Source record: 497

DrTeeth;788676 Wrote:
>
>
> But I've
> not considered BNC, at least for HF work.
>
> Though it may be an impure thought, but don't HF commercial rigs all
> have SO 259s? Are adapters available?
> --
>
> Cheers
>
>

Yes - but the adapters are quite lossy.

--
Channel Jumper

79. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-26 05:45:59 UTC
From: nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu
Message-ID: <jkovki$2k4$1@usenet.stanford.edu>
Source record: 498

In article <Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com> Channel Jumper
<Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com> writes:
>
>DrTeeth;788676 Wrote:
>>
>>
>> But I've
>> not considered BNC, at least for HF work.
>>
>> Though it may be an impure thought, but don't HF commercial rigs all
>> have SO 259s? Are adapters available?
>> --
>>
>> Cheers
>>
>>
>
>Yes - but the adapters are quite lossy.

Actually, I have not found significant loss in any of these adapters
I have used. If they had much loss, they would get warm (or hot) when
transmitting, and none I have used do.

Alan

80. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-26 17:08:36 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <ag41n7t662kusbar11j70vrvdcro50l3rf@4ax.com>
Source record: 499

On Mon, 26 Mar 2012 01:45:59 EDT, nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu (Alan)
wrote:

>In article <Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com> Channel Jumper
<Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com> writes:
>>
>>DrTeeth;788676 Wrote:
>>>
>>>
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>>> --
>>>
>>> Cheers
>>>
>>>
>>
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>
>
> Actually, I have not found significant loss in any of these adapters
>I have used. If they had much loss, they would get warm (or hot) when
>transmitting, and none I have used do.
>
> Alan

I agree with Alan. The adapters are not lossy.
I use them frequently to connect the outputs of my handhelds (BNC,
SMA) to mag-mount antennas (UHF connector). They work fine. Good
output signal and good reception. No heat generated.

Dick Grady, AC7EL

To respond to me privately, email to:
<My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

81. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-26 23:12:53 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <4f70ad62$0$32187$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 500

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <ag41n7t662kusbar11j70vrvdcro50l3rf@4ax.com> <someone@somewhere.com> writes:

>On Mon, 26 Mar 2012 01:45:59 EDT, nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu (Alan)
>wrote:

>>In article <Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com> Channel Jumper
<Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com> writes:
>>>
>>>DrTeeth;788676 Wrote:
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> But I've
>>>> not considered BNC, at least for HF work.
>>>>
>>>> Though it may be an impure thought, but don't HF commercial rigs all
>>>> have SO 259s? Are adapters available?
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>>>> Cheers
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>>Yes - but the adapters are quite lossy.
>>
>>
>> Actually, I have not found significant loss in any of these adapters
>>I have used. If they had much loss, they would get warm (or hot) when
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>>
>> Alan

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>I use them frequently to connect the outputs of my handhelds (BNC,
>SMA) to mag-mount antennas (UHF connector). They work fine. Good
>output signal and good reception. No heat generated.

>Dick Grady, AC7EL

>To respond to me privately, email to:
><My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

Reading around on the subject, it seems that there are different kinds
of losses in connectors and transmission lines, and not all of them will
```

cause heating at the junction or interval where the loss occurs. Some knowledgeable amateurs have noted that we sometimes confuse transmission losses and insertion losses. Transmission loss, either Ohmic resistance or dielectric, will be dissipative, and directly heat the transmission line where the losses occur. Insertion loss, such as from impedance mismatch, results in power being reflected. Even impedance-matched connector conversions (50 Ohm to 50 Ohm) may still result in some impedance mismatch due to practical limits on their physical design, including their actual non-constant impedance that can vary with frequency, and the quality of their connections, particularly after long-term exposure to the elements. This is where the imaginary part of complex impedance, also known as reactance, comes in.

Now, that reflected power has to go somewhere, and will either be reflected back to the airwaves on reception, or back into the transmitter on transmission. But just measuring heat generated at the connector may not account for all losses, because the actual dissipation may occur elsewhere. You may not have noticed much or any signal loss due to operating well within usable link budgets, nor noticed much extra heat generation in the body of the HT, but insertion loss from connectors can contribute a small, measurable amount of reduction in signal strength. Probably not something to worry about for an HT talking to a repeater. Perhaps something to worry about for Earth-Moon-Earth at UHF, or mountain-topping at microwave frequencies, or other weak-signal work much above HF.

Some links I found on the subject:

1. Pretty Lousy? (PL) 259 Connectors

"The underlying assumption with the above statement is connector loss has everything to do with resistive 'heating' losses, has nothing to do with reflective losses, and all loss will reveal itself as heat energy."

http://www.hamradio.me/connectors/pretty-lousy-pl-259-connectors-the-test.html

2. The UHF type connector under network analysis

"Manufactures of UHF plugs and receptors all state that this type connector are of non-constant impedance and are suitable for use up to 200 or 300 MHz, depending on production quality. They also state that the UHF connector can be used up to 500 MHz with a cautionary note of reduced performance."

http://www.qsl.net/vk3jeg/pl259tst.html

3. Insertion Loss vs. Transmission Loss

"Insertion Loss and Transmission Loss are often confused by hams."

http://vk1od.net/transmissionline/concept/iltl.htm

4. N-type vs. SO-239 NO FIGHTING PLEASE! :-)

"There's no question that Type N connectors will outperform UHF connectors at VHF and UHF. But unless you're prepared to open up the radio and replace the SO-239 with a Type N, don't sweat the single connection. Just use a UHF-Type N adapter on the back of the rig and go with Type N connectors everywhere else."

http://www.eham.net/ehamforum/smf/index.php?topic=68629.0;wap2

5. Insertion loss for RF connector adaptors

"1/4 to 1/2 db per connector is the loss I've always heard."

http://www.amsat.org/amsat/archive/amsat-bb/200405/msg00214.html

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFPcK1K6Pj0az779o4RAoL7AJ9VQovYNqZnQP4W22CC2a2061sFnwCgmdMN
VIgz18pm+vorQe1TZN466tQ=
=LMnT
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

82. Re: Can pasta-inspired radio waves could unclog the wireless world?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-26 23:13:16 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <4f70bf09$0$32199$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 401

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <jjgrg7$3c8$1@dont-email.me> John Davis <wa8yxm@gmail.invalid.com> writes:
```

>On 3/6/2012 10:49 AM, Bill Horne wrote:
>> I came across this story today, and I'd appreciate hearing other hams'
>> opinions as to whether this is possible. TIA.
>>
>> Bill, W1AC
>> - - - - -
>>
>> Pasta-inspired radio waves could unclog the wireless world
>>
>> Agence France-Presse
>> 6:39 am | Saturday, March 3rd, 2012
>>
>> WASHINGTON—Radio waves that move like pasta spirals could help unclog
>> the wireless world by boosting the power of radio communications,
>> Italian and Swedish researchers said Friday.
>>
>> The new way to make radio signals more potent without boosting bandwidth
>> is described in the Institute of Physics and German Physical Society's
>> New Journal of Physics edition of March 2.
>>
>> "In a three-dimensional perspective, this phase twist looks like a
>> fusillli-pasta-shaped beam," lead study author Fabrizio Tamburini was
>> quoted as telling the science website PhysOrg.
>>
>> "Each of these twisted beams can be independently generated, propagated
>> and detected even in the very same frequency band, behaving as
>> independent communication channels."
>>
>> That means they do not move linearly like all current forms of radio
>> communications do, and they do not need more bandwidth to increase their
>> transmission capacity.
>>
>> http://technology.inquirer.net/8897/pasta-inspired-radio-waves-could-unclog-the-wireless-world
>>
>>
>Sounds like circular polarization to me, Sat-TV uses it to put not one
>but TWO transponders on the same frequency.

>You can do the same between two FIXED sites using cross polarization,
>however in the real world that does not work as well as circular... I
>know, I've done it.

>--
>Nothing adds Excitement like something that is none of your business.
>Remove the invalid part to email me.

It's not circular polarization, rather, it's another characteristic of
an electromagnetic wave that is being exploited, Orbital Angular
Momentum (OAM). Circular polarization uses spinning (helical)
polarization E & M vectors. This proposed technology would use a
helical wavefront by introducing a time-delay (or phase) distribution of
components of the signal from a dish or array.

I read the latest paper and watched the video abstract at the following link:

http://iopscience.iop.org/1367-2630/14/3/033001/article

but can't say that I completely understand it. The clearest description
of modulation and frequency reuse of OAM that I found appears to be this
article in New Scientist from 2009, including its use in HAARP:

http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn16591-twisted-radio-beams-could-untangle-the-airwave
s.html

Quote from the above article:

"The twists remain coherent across vast distances - light years, even
- and can store information in the form of digital bits (1s and 0s),
encoded into the pitch of the twist."

The discussion at this link may also help illuminate the subject better:

http://www.physorg.com/news/2012-03-pasta-shaped-radio-venice.html

The latest discovery wasn't the theory itself, but rather a practical
demonstration at radio frequencies. OAM is well-known in quantum
mechanics, as well as in electromagnetic radiation at optical
frequencies in the field of astronomy.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD4DBQFPcL2m6Pj0az779o4RAowzAJ92193Zv8sNoy7BV45l8wSo1+t6JwCUCwyI
YAD2HyiQ/M+fwfDNMQP0EQ==
=PloZ
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

83. FCC Daily Digest 03/27/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-27 15:50:37 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-518844-2012.03.27-11.06.28--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 402
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 59 March 27, 2
012

[...]

AMENDMENT OF PART 15 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS FO
R TANK LEVEL PROBING RADARS IN THE FREQUENCY BANDS 77-81 GHZ AND 5.925-7.25
0 GHZ, 24.05-29 GHZ AND 75-85 GHZ. Expanded the scope of the proceeding t
o propose a set of technical rules for the operation of unlicensed level pr
obing radars in several frequency bands. (Dkt No. 10-23). Action by: the
Commission. Adopted: 03/26/2012 by FNPRM. (FCC No. 12-34). OET http://h
raunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-34A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-34A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-34A1.txt

[...]

84. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-27 16:35:03 UTC
From: nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu
Message-ID: <jkr7g9gjl1@usenet.stanford.edu>
Source record: 403

In article <4f70ad62$0$32187$540ea2cf@novia.net> Paul W. Schleck
<pschleck@oasis.novia.net>" writes:

>Reading around on the subject, it seems that there are different kinds
>of losses in connectors and transmission lines, and not all of them will
>cause heating at the junction or interval where the loss occurs. Some
>knowledgeable amateurs have noted that we sometimes confuse transmission
>losses and insertion losses. Transmission loss, either Ohmic resistance
>or dielectric, will be dissipative, and directly heat the transmission
>line where the losses occur. Insertion loss, such as from impedance
>mismatch, results in power being reflected. Even impedance-matched
>connector conversions (50 Ohm to 50 Ohm) may still result in some
>impedance mismatch due to practical limits on their physical design,
>including their actual non-constant impedance that can vary with
>frequency, and the quality of their connections, particularly after
>long-term exposure to the elements. This is where the imaginary part of
>complex impedance, also known as reactance, comes in.

The question being addressed was the losses of an adapter when connecting
a cable to an HF rig built with a UHF connector.

The adapters are very short sections of transmission line. The Smith
chart works here, too. Even with a substantial impedance mismatch through
the connector, the segment is very short with respect to a wavelength, and
will not provide a significant input impedance mismatch, if the output side
of the connector is connected to a 50 ohm load.

> 5. Insertion loss for RF connector adaptors
>
> "1/4 to 1/2 db per connector is the loss I've always heard."
>
> http://www.amsat.org/amsat/archive/amsat-bb/200405/msg00214.html

I suggest measurement is a better way to determine the truth. These
claims are easy to test --- measurements I made some years ago didn't
support such claims. In fact, if you are getting such substantial losses,
it is probably time to investigate other possible causes.

Alan

85. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-27 17:41:03 UTC
From: jimp@specsol.spam.sux.com
Message-ID: <a28949-lfo.ln1@mail.specsol.com>
Source record: 404

someone@somewhere.com wrote:
> On Mon, 26 Mar 2012 01:45:59 EDT, nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu (Alan)
> wrote:
>
>>In article <Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com> Channel Jumper
<Channel.Jumper.9b50798@radiobanter.com> writes:
>>>
>>>DrTeeth;788676 Wrote:
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> But I've
>>>> not considered BNC, at least for HF work.
>>>>
>>>> Though it may be an impure thought, but don't HF commercial rigs all
>>>> have SO 259s? Are adapters available?
>>>> --
>>>>
>>>> Cheers
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>>Yes - but the adapters are quite lossy.
>>
>>
>> Actually, I have not found significant loss in any of these adapters
>>I have used. If they had much loss, they would get warm (or hot) when
>>transmitting, and none I have used do.
>>
>> Alan
>
> I agree with Alan. The adapters are not lossy.
> I use them frequently to connect the outputs of my handhelds (BNC,
> SMA) to mag-mount antennas (UHF connector). They work fine. Good
> output signal and good reception. No heat generated.
>
> Dick Grady, AC7EL
>
> To respond to me privately, email to:
> <My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>
>

It highly depends on how the adapter was made and who made it.

Well made adapters from reputable makers have losses in the fractions of
a db but there is also junk out there.

Some may have heard of the infamous cheapie UHF right angle adapter where the center conductor was a spring; yep, a coil.

86. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-28 02:26:47 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <4f71fb94$0$32177$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 405

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <jkr7g9gjl1@usenet.stanford.edu> nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu (Alan) writes:

>In article <4f70ad62$0$32187$540ea2cf@novia.net> Paul W. Schleck
<pschleck@oasis.novia.net>" writes:

>>Reading around on the subject, it seems that there are different kinds
>>of losses in connectors and transmission lines, and not all of them will
>>cause heating at the junction or interval where the loss occurs. Some
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>the connector, the segment is very short with respect to a wavelength, and
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>of the connector is connected to a 50 ohm load.

>> 5. Insertion loss for RF connector adaptors
>>
>> "1/4 to 1/2 db per connector is the loss I've always heard."
>>
>> http://www.amsat.org/amsat/archive/amsat-bb/200405/msg00214.html

> I suggest measurement is a better way to determine the truth. These
>claims are easy to test --- measurements I made some years ago didn't
>support such claims. In fact, if you are getting such substantial losses,
>it is probably time to investigate other possible causes.

> Alan

Thanks, Alan, for your followup.

I certainly don't mind being corrected, or clarified, on the subject. I just knew enough (to be dangerous?) on the topic to know that losses can be both direct Ohmic or dielectric dissipation losses, or reflection losses from impedance mismatches. So a cool connector or transmission line is necessary, but not sufficient, evidence that little or no power is being lost. Digging further into some of the links I gave shows some efforts by others to actually try to measure all power losses from source to load using vector analyzers and calorimeters. If you've made similar measurements yourself, I'd certainly defer to your empirical data.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFPcftj6Pj0az779o4RAho9AJ4imndjP+gv/r54trtMSsL6097aywCgrmsA
+4dp431lkAaDjOvxpMumVdM=
=CmYa
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

87. The ARRL Letter for March 29, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-29 20:16:51 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120329194346.6A14B206A4@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 406
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

March 29, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> + Available on ARRL Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ON THE AIR: NTIA -- NO OBJECTION TO ADDITIONAL DATA MODES ON 60
METERS

In response to requests for clarification from the ARRL, the
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has
confirmed that it has no objection to the use of a broader range of
data emissions by amateurs on the five 5 MHz frequencies on 60 meters.
ARRL's original understanding was that the NTIA preferred that the use
of 2K80J2D emission be limited to Pactor III. The NTIA now says that
that is not the case. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/ntia-no-objection-to-additional-data-modes-on-60-me
ters>.

==> + ON THE AIR: ONLINE DXCC APPLICATION TO DEBUT APRIL 2

Beginning April 2 at 12:01 AM EDT (0401 UTC), the ARRL's new Online
DXCC tool will be ready to accept applications, allowing hams to supply
the data from traditional paper QSLs in a digital form to apply for a
new DXCC award or endorsement. Submitting a DXCC application using
Online DXCC is easier than making a paper application, saving both time
and money. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/online-dxcc-application-to-debut-april-2>.

==> + JOE WALSH, WB6ACU, IS AN ANALOG MAN

Grammy Award winning rock-and-roll legend Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, returns
with Analog Man, set to be released June 5. This is Walsh's first solo
album since 1992's Songs for a Dying Planet. According to Walsh's
website, Analog Man is both modern and timelessly soulful, packed with
Walsh's wit, charm and chops; it delivers an incredibly raw and
intimate sound. "It's been 20 years and I have a lot to say," Walsh
```

explained. "These songs [on Analog Man] come from the heart."

No stranger to the analog way of life, Walsh -- an ARRL Life Member -- enjoys operating on 75 meters AM. AM -- or amplitude modulation -- has been around the amateur bands since the 1930s. Its advocates say that AM offers a warm, rich audio quality that provides for more personal interaction and that AM's simplicity circuit design encourages hands-on restoration, modification and homebrew construction to an extent no longer found among contemporary radios. Many hams who operate AM say they enjoy the simple, roomy electrical and mechanical designs of the older radios, claiming that they can more easily be modified and tinkered with than their modern counterparts. Other enthusiasts claim that these vintage radios sound better than their silicon descendants, saying that the tube audio from vintage gear is "warmer" and more aesthetically pleasing than the audio produced by the typical modern transceiver. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/joe-walsh-wb6acu-is-an-analog-man>.

==> + ARRL HQ: TWO POSITIONS OPEN AT ARRL HQ

The League is currently looking to fill two open positions at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. One position is in the Membership and Volunteer Programs Department and the other is in the Education Services Department. Travel is required for these full-time positions.

MVP Awards and Programs Assistant

This person who fills this position will assist in all activities found within the MVP Department, with initial priority given to assisting with Logbook of The World (LoTW
<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>) support functions. Other duties include supporting the DXCC and other awards programs, W1AW station operations and contesting program support. Candidates should hold an Amateur Extra class license, participate in contests and DXCC, and be an experienced user of LoTW. A Bachelor's degree is preferred. Click here
<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/About%20ARRL/Employment/Awards%20and%20Programs%20Assistant%20%282%29.pdf>
for a job description.

Education Services Instruction and Resource Coordinator

The person who fills this position will, among other duties, identify, review and organize resources needed by license instructors, teachers and Scout leaders, develop curricula/lesson plans, instructional media for instruction of ham radio license and other ham radio related topics (including radio science and basic electronics topics for use by classroom teachers) and develop an orientation course for license instructors and materials for instructor training. Candidates should hold an Amateur Extra class license (or be willing to achieve this within one year from date of hire) and a wide range of operating experience. Experience with instructional media is a plus. A Bachelor's

degree, along with teacher certification (and/or experience as a teaching or training professional) with Amateur Radio, electronics, science or technology subjects is required. Click here <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/About%20ARRL/Employment/FT%20Ed%20Svcs%20Instruction%20and%20Resource%20Coordinator-announce%20Mar12%20%282%29.pdf> for a job description.

How to Apply

To apply, please send your cover letter and resume via e-mail <mlevesque@arrl.org>, or complete the application <http://www.arrl.org/files/media/News/Revised_Employment_Application.pdf>, print it out and mail it with your resume and cover letter to Monique Levesque, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. You can also fax your application, cover letter and resume to 860-594-0298. Please include your salary history and salary requirements. The ARRL is an equal opportunity employer.

==> + QST AUTHOR SERIOUSLY INJURED

Commander Richard Paton, USCGR (Ret) -- author of "Radio's Role in the Titanic Disaster" in the April 2012 issue of QST -- was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident in Tolland, Connecticut on March 22. He is in the Intensive Care Unit at Hartford Hospital.

"It was a great shock to hear the news," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "Dick and his wife Carol live in the same town that I do and sit right behind me at church. I knew nothing about his article until it was in print, because I was in Geneva attending WRC-12 while the April QST was being put together. My congratulatory e-mail reached him while he and Carol were on a cruise in the Pacific. The accident occurred soon after they returned home."

Commander Paton, 67, was injured when his motorcycle collided with an automobile. At last report the accident was still under investigation.

"While Dick is not a radio amateur, his extensive maritime experience and inquiring mind combine to lead him to be curious about many of the things that intrigue us as hams," Sumner said. "I hope ARRL members who enjoyed his contribution to QST will join me in keeping Dick in their thoughts and prayers as he fights to recover."

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Never did Sun more beautifully steep <http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/15877>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Eight new sunspot groups appeared this week, but the average daily sunspot number declined four points to 71.1, while the average daily solar flux rose by less than two points to 103.7. On March 22, three new sunspot groups appeared, numbered 1441, 1442 and 1443. Two more groups appeared on Friday, 1444 and 1445, while 1442 vanished from view. On March 24, group 1441 disappeared, and on March 25 new group 1446 emerged. On March 26, groups 1440, 1443 and 1446 faded away, but

1442 -- not seen since four days earlier -- re-emerged. On March 27, group 1444 disappeared and 1447 appeared, and on March 28 new group 1448 arrived. For the short term, planetary A index is predicted to be 10 on March 29, 5 on March 30-April 9, then 12 on April 10, and back to 5 on April 11-12, then 15 and 10 on April 13-14, followed by 5 on April 15-23. The solar flux prediction shows flux values of 110 and 115 on March 29-30, 120 on March 31-April 2, 125 on April 3-5, and a big jump to 140 on April 6. On April 7-11, the predicted solar flux is 130, 125, 120, 110 and 105. On April 12-15, the predicted solar flux is 100. It then goes to 105 and 110 on April 16-17, and back to 100 on April 18-21. Another broader peak of 140 is predicted for May 1-3. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, March 30. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by William Wordsworth's Composed upon Westminster Bridge, September 3, 1802 <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Composed_upon_Westminster_Bridge,_September_3,_1802>.

==> + ARRL TO CLOSE IN OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY

ARRL Headquarters will be closed in observance of Good Friday on Friday, April 6. There will be no W1AW bulletin or code practice transmissions <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> that day. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Monday, April 9 at 8 AM Eastern Daylight Time. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend.

==> LUXEMBOURG ISSUES STAMP TO CELEBRATE 75 YEARS OF AMATEUR RADIO

Founded in 1937, the Réseau Luxembourgeois des Amateurs d'Ondes Courtes (RL <http://www.rlx.lu/index.html>) -- that country's IARU Member-Society -- is celebrating its 75th anniversary. In honor of this milestone, Luxembourg's Entreprise des Postes et Télécommunications (P&TLuxembourg) has issued a .60 € postage stamp <http://www.pt.lu/portal/lang/en/Philatelie/stamps/pid/4292> (about 80 cents in US currency); P&TLuxembourg is that country's government owned corporation for mail and telecommunications. This is one of three commemorative stamps issued by Luxembourg in 2012 .

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- March 31-April 1 -- Missouri QSO Party
- April 1 -- UBA Spring Contest (SSB)
- April 3 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

Next week:

- April 6 -- NCCC RTTY Sprint
- April 7 -- LZ Open 40 Meter Sprint Contest; PODXS 070 Club PSK 31 Flavors Contest (local time)

- April 7-8 -- QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party; SP DX Contest
- April 11 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
- April 11-12 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- April 7 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest-1>, Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 14 -- ARRL Delta Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delta-division-convention-3>, Bartlett, Tennessee
- April 14-15 -- Communications Academy 2012 <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2012>, Seattle, Washington
- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho; 63rd International DX Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>, Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radio-electronics-expo-1>, Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe, Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>, Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>, Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>, Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers, Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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88. Re: QRT for decades now getting the urge to go online again

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-29 23:29:08 UTC
From: Channel Jumper <Channel.Jumper.9baa1f8@radiobanter.com>
Message-ID: <Channel.Jumper.9baa1f8@radiobanter.com>
Source record: 407

Maybe my answer was not clear enough - anytime you make or break a connection between the coax and the shield and a connector - some loss occurs.

When you start stacking one adapter on top of another adapter and when you use a more lossy coax - the losses multiplies.

As a example - lets say you spent $6000.00 to put up a 100' tower, a SteppIR DB antenna and a cheap Ham IV rotor and then you skimped on the coax and used some cheap Radio Shack RG 8 - open braid wire

Lets say the beam antenna produced 12 db of gain on 20 meters and the coax threw away 3 Db in 100'. Lets also assume you used a good Amphenol PL connector and one connector on each end, had one half of one Db of loss.

You just threw away 4 Db of signal.
Knowing that 3 Db / actually 2.85 is equal to a loss of 1/2 the signal - its like substituting the SteppIR DB antenna for a cheaper model.

Now - we are not just throwing away receive power, we are also throwing away transmit power / and i'm not even going to get into the costs associated with that.

To take it one step further, lets say we put up a 440 MHz repeater and we use the same Radio Shack RG 8 coax and the same PL connector @100'...

What was only 3 Db of loss at 14 MHz is now 16 Db of loss at 440 MHz. So we go to a better grade of coax / probably hard line, and we use $150.00 connectors on each end.

We still need to concern ourselves with loss.

If we throw away even 1/2 of 1 Db with every connector and we have one connector at the top of the tower, another connector at the ground plate, another connector at the bottom of the tower, another connector on the wire going to the transmitter building, another connector at the transmitter building - before the coax enters the building, another on the other side of the ground, another at the duplexer, another at the transmitter - it isn't very long before all those connectors adds up.

When you get into Microwave frequencies it gets even worse.

Look at the cost of a 1000 watt amplifier for 14 MHz and compare that cost to a 100 watt amplifier at 2.4 GHz and then tell me which is cheaper...

--
Channel Jumper

89. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1807 - March 30 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-30 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120330090004.3679833C6C@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 408
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1807 - March 30 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1807 with a release date of March 30th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The next Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference to be hekd in Malaysia; 1700 South African hams let their licenses lapse, World amateur Radio Day to celebrate 50 yesrs of ham radio in space, Japan to launch five new hamsats, DXCC is going on-line and Roving Reporter Pierre Pulinmyleg returns with a truly out of this world April 1st story. Find out where Pierre is this year on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1807 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: MY GAREC 2012 TO BE HELD IN MALAYSIA IN NOVEMBER

The 8th Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference now coined as MyGAREC 2012, will be held from November 12th to the 14th in Malaysia. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

--

Among the draft topics to be discussed at My GAREC 2012 are High Frequency Emergency Operating Procedures, presentations from the three regions of the IARU and presentations from societies with recent disaster relief communications operations. Also to be discussed will be the future Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference itself.

GAREC began in 2005 and is now the premier annual event attended by those with an interest in amateur radio providing emergency communications during training exercises or in response to disasters. As such it attracts participants from around the world.

General information including information on the venue, registration fees and the tentative agenda and the registration forms will be posted on the website www.mygarec2012.com by the end of this month. That website will be updated frequently to keep all updated with the latest news and program changes. For specific information you can e-mail to info (at) mygarec2012 (dot) com

For the Amateur radio Newsline, Im Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

MyGAREC 2012 has been timed to immediately follow the IARU Region 3 Conference to be held in Vietnam from November 5th to the 9th. It too has as its theme disaster relief communications.

(VK3PC, MyGarec 2012 Team)

**

RESTRUCTURING: NTIA SAYS PACTOR III IS NOT THE ONLY DIGITAL MODE FOR 60 METERS

Some breaking news for those who operate the 60 meter band. In response to requests for clarification from the ARRL, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration says that it has no objection to the use of a broader range of data emissions by amateurs on the five 5 MHz frequencies on 60 meters.

In an e-mail response to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, Karl Nebbia, the Associate Administrator of the NTIA Office of Spectrum Management, stated, that his organization had no interest in limiting the types of emission used by the amateurs as long as the data emission does not exceed the 2.8 kHz bandwidth as generated by the upper sideband transmitter.

Nebbia referred all further inquiries to the FCC, which he says sets the conditions for use of the five 5 MHz frequencies by radio amateurs.

The ARRL said that its original understanding was that the NTIA preferred that the use of 2K80J2D emission be limited to Pactor III. The NTIA now says that that is not the case.

But it's not all peaches and roses. This is because the requirement of only one signal per channel remains, as well as the prohibition against automatic operation. Also, the FCC continues to require that all digital transmissions be centered on the channel-center frequencies, which the Report and Order defines as being 1.5 kHz above the suppressed carrier frequency of a transceiver operated in the Upper Sideband mode. The ARRL says that this is typically the frequency shown on the frequency display.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, in Berwyck, Pennsylvania. (NTIA, ARRL, others)

**

WORLDBEAT: ICASA SAYS OVER 1700 SOUTH AFRICA HAM LICENSES HAVE LAPSED

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa says that approximately 1700 amateur radio call signs have been marked as having lapsed by the regulatory agency. This is as a result of a substantial cleanup that the ICASA undertook during the last 12 months.

According to the South African Radio League, this is a significant number of former callsigns and that it is likely that many amateurs have unwittingly allowed their licenses to lapse. As an example SARL

says it has 43 paid up members who no longer have valid licenses.

If you are a South Africa radio amateur and believe you might be one of these people whose license inadvertently lapsed, the South African Radio Leagues advises to visit its website where you will find more information and what to do. The URL is www.sarl.org.za. (SARL)

**

HAM CELEBRATIONS: WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY TO CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF HAM RADIO IN SPACE

April 18th is World Amateur Radio Day and celebrates the 87th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union, IARU. Now it has been announced that the theme of this years World Amateur Radio Day is "Amateur Radio Satellites: Celebrating 50 Years in Space."

The name and the theme were chosen in remembrance the launching of OSCAR 1 on December 12, 1961 and OSCAR 2 on June 2, 1962. Several IARU Member Societies have already announced special event stations for various dates during April to celebrate these two early ham radio in space milestones.

Callsigns known as we go to air include 6H6IARU, 3G73IARU and LZ1WARD. The EARD suffix standing for World Amateur adio Day. (IARU-R2)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: JAPAN TO LAUNCH AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITES

Big news on the ham radio space scene. This with word that the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency has announced the upcoming launch of five amateur radio satellites. This, on two launches taking place this spring and summer. Amateur Radio Newsline's Stephen Kinford, N8WB, is here with more:

--

The first launch is the H2A that takes place on May 17th. It will carry the amateur radio satellite HORYU-2.

This will be followed on July 21st when the HTV3 mission. It will deliver the JEM-Small Satellite Orbital Deployer or J-SSOD to the International Space Station. That unit will enable small satellites to be deployed from the ISS using the Japanese Experiment Module robot arm.

The Japanese amateur radio satellites WE-WISH and FITSAT-1, along with San Jose State University's TechEdSat and Vietnam's F-1 will also be delivered to the I-S-S on this mission. Plans are for them to be deployed to orbit on September 20th.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Stephen Kinford, N8WB, in Wadsworth, Ohio.

--

We will have more ham radio space related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (JN1GKZ, Southgate)

**

CHANGING TIMES: ON-LINE DXCC

A new DXCC tool that brings the program partially on-line is to debut on April 2nd. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with more:

--

Actually, initial word of the DXCC going on-line came not from the ARRL but rather from the Ohio-Penn DX newsletter and was later confirmed by the ARRL DXCC desk. And in a nutshell, here's how it's going to work.

Using an Online DXCC Application, the candidate can select the cards that he or she would like to have checked by a card checker at his or her convenience. The person then types that data into a form which can be saved and retrieved at any time until submitted and make an application for DXCC.

When completed, the applicant will be able to print the list of cards and take the list -- and the cards -- in the same order that they are entered into the form -- to a card checker. He or she will check the cards, note any changes and send the form to ARRL HQ.

For the most part, the card checker's job is exactly the same as before, except he or she does not need to collect a payment. This is because the applicant can pay the DXCC fee on-line.

Once submitted, DXCC staff will have access a given file, make any changes noted by the card checker and process the application.

And oh yes, the good news: The Online DXCC Application will have rates that are half those of a traditional paper QSL application that is sent to ARRL HQ.

More detailed information is on-line at tinyurl.com/dxcc-online

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom, in Los Angeles.

--

The bottom line: Submitting a DXCC application on-line should be easier than making a paper application, saving both time and money. (DXCC, OPDX)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the New Orleans

VHF Club net serving New Orleans Louisiana.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENSED BROADCASTER IN PUERTO RICO HAS FINE REDUCED

The operator of an unlicensed FM broadcast station in Puerto Rico has been able to convince the FCC to reduce a fine levied against him based on financial hardship.

After being handed a Notice of Apparent Liability in the amount of $15,000, Eleuterio Lebron of Guayama, Puerto Rico responded to the regulatory agency last September. In his note to the agency he claimed that he was not trying to violate the FCC rules or the Communications Act when he operated an unauthorized station on 88.5 MHz. He went on to say that he thought he could use his Ramsey model PX50 transmitter legally without a license because it was marketed as being Part 15 compliant.

However in its findings the FCC disagreed with Lebron interpretation of Ramsey's marketing. It noted that Part 15 compliance wasn't mentioned. It also stated Lebron's ignorance of the rules doesn't justify or mitigate the violation. Especially as he had been warned before that the transmissions were illegal.

However the agency did reduce the penalty to only $1500 based on documentation submitted by Lebron's backing up his assertion that the original $15,000 penalty amounted to a financial hardship that he could not pay. While it accepted this as a viable reason to reduce the fine, the commission warned Lebron that any future violations may result in higher monetary forfeitures that may not be reduced based on his financial circumstances.

Payment of the reduced fine was due within 30 days of Lebron being officially notified of the FCC's decision in the case. (FCC)

**

RESTRUCTURING: FCC FORMS BROADBAND SPECTRUM RE-ALLOCATION TASK FORCE

The Federal Communications Commission is proposing to re-allocate another 40 MHz of spectrum out of mobile satellite services spectrum for broadband, and has formed an Incentive Auction Task Force. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, reports:

--

This is a committee loaded with some well known names in the field of telecommunications. Its purpose will manage the auction process to restructure current broadcast television spectrum for future broadband use.

Ruth Milkman, the former Wireless Bureau chief who is now special counsel to the FCC chairman, will head up the task force. Among others she will be joined by Rick Kaplan, who now heads the FCC's Wireless Division; Julius Knapp, head of the Office of Engineering and Technology; FCC Chief Economist Marius Schwartz; Chief Technologist Henning Schulzrinne and General Counsel Austin Schlick.

Along with the formation of the task force the commission also issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to open up 40 MHz of spectrum in the 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Services band for wireless broadband. The proposed rules would allow flexible use of the targeted spectrum and reflects the directives in the National Broadband Plan.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

A related Notice of Inquiry seeks comment on more strategies to free up additional spectrum as well. (FCC, TVT)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ARRL SPONSORING WEBINAR TO HELP YOU PUBLICIZE FIELD DAY

The ARRL Public Relations Committee will be holding a free Webinar on Thursday evening April 12 for Public Information Officers, radio club officers and anyone else wanting to join in. This, to teach the easiest and most effective way to write a press release for Field Day and actually get it noticed by the mass media in your home region.

The webinar will begin at 9 pm Eastern Daylight Time and will run for about 90 minutes. Several experts in mass media communications will be on hand to teach the tricks of the trade in dealing with radio, television and print publications.

Pre-registration is required. To reserve a spot simply take your web browser to tinyurl.com/arrl-field-day-webinar or directly at https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/278619454.

Space is limited so if you want to take part you need to sign up today. (ARRL PR Committee)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: MICROWAVE UPDATE 2012 PUTS OUT CALL FOR PAPERS

This years Microwave Update Conference will be held October 18th to the 21st in Santa Clara, California. Hosted by the 50 MHz and Up Group, a first call is going out to solicit conference papers, presentations and workshops on technical and operational aspects of microwave weak signal amateur radio. This covering the centimeter, millimeter and sub-millimeter to light wavelengths. Tutorials and overviews are also welcome to summarize current know how and to help

and encourage newcomers. For more information on submitting papers as well as all other aspects of the conference please go www.microwaveupdate.org on the World-Wide-Web. (WZ1V)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ESPN EMPLOYEES CREATE THE WORLDWIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Current and former employees of the Entertainment and Sports Network, better known to the public as ESPN, have formed the Worldwide Amateur Radio Club. Located on the grounds of the ESPN facility in Bristol, Connecticut, the group has now been granted the club call WE1SPN .

At present the club has about 40 members. Inaugural operations were to take place on 7.177 MHz at 21:00 UTC on March 29th. This opening gala was to include trying to contact as may radio clubs at Disney theme parks as possible.

The Worldwide Amateur Radio Club is the latest bin a long series of broadcast industry based employee recreation entities. It joins similar employee groups at the CBS, NBC, ABC and Fox networks as well as at a number of broadcast stations nationwide and world-wide.

More about WE1SPN can be found by checking the listing page for their callsign on QRZ.com. (KE6ZGP)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: SOUTH AFRICA WESTERN CAPE ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION EXPO

South Africa's Western Cape section of the Antique Wireless Association of South Africa will be holding an Expo over Easter weekend from April 6th to the 9th. Location ids the farm owned by John and Judy Martin, ZS1D, and ZS1JEG and located near the town of Stanford. Featured will be a large display of radios of yesteryear and associated equipment. Also a classic radio station will be in operation. Talk-in is on 145.5 MHz simplex as well as on the 145.725 Hermanus repeater. Those planning to attend are encouraged to bring an antique radio to exhibit. (SARL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE3CBR APPOINTED PIO FOR RAC NATIONAL FIELD OFFICE SECRETARIAT

Some names in the news. Radio Amateurs of Canada has announced that Alan Bauld VE3CBR has been appointed Public Information Officer to the Field Organization National Secretariat. VE3CBR resides in Stittsville, Ontario just outside Ottawa, and brings with him an extensive background in both management and amateur radio. His appointment is effective immediately. (RAC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: RSGB APPOINTS NEW AROS COORDINATOR

The Radio Society of Great Britain has announced the appointment of Keith Bassett, G7NBU has been appointed as the new Amateur Radio Observation Service or AROS Coordinator with Mario Brashill, G2DPA appointed as a deputy. The RSGB says that together they bring significant experience and skill to the Amateur Radio Observation Service with its broad challenges of investigating matters that might create a negative public of amateur radio. (RSGB)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: ANDY SENNITT TO RETIRE FROM RNW END OF APRIL

Andy Sennitt who edited the now closed Radio Netherlands Media Network weblog says that he will be retiring from that international broadcaster at the end of April. Sennitt says that during his last weeks at Radio Netherlands that he will be writing a series of articles reflecting on the changes in international broadcasting since he started appearing on the Media Network radio show in 1981 as well as looking ahead to the coming decade.

This perspective will be published on the Radio Netherlands English language website. Sennitt asks that if you have any memories of Radio Netherlands or any other international broadcasters that you would like to share, please e-mail them to him. He can be reached at at MediaNetwork (at) rnw (dot) nl. Sennitt adds that he will try to include them in the articles as is possible. (Media Network)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: WO4W SAYS BETTER TORNADO WARNING SYSTEM NEEDED

In an interview with National Public Radio, veteran T-V meteorologist James Spann, WO4W, recently highlighted the limitations he and his colleagues face when covering tornadoes. Spann, who has become something of a severe weather pundit during his time at Birmingham Alabama's ABC 33/40, says that we are not as good as we think we are, and we have to accept that and work on it and be better.

WO4W says that television stations must stream their long form tornado coverage in a way that is accessible to all portable devices, not just some of them. And says Spann, its important to make the stream easy to find either via a web page or app. You can hear the story on National Public Radio's All Things Considered at tinyurl.com/npr-tornado-alert.

James Spann has long been an outspoken critic of the siren only warning process and the public's over-reliance on them. Following the April 2011 tornado outbreak he wrote a long blog post about the siren mentality titled "The Warning Process Must Be Fixed." Its on the web at tinyurl.com/spann-tornado-warning (NPR)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE FINAL FRONTIER: NASA ANNOUNCES ISSLIVE! APP

NASA has announced the release of the ISSLive! app for iPhone, iPad and Andoid devices. Amateur Radio Newsline's David Black, KB4KCH, has the details:

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The ISS Live! app delivers live streaming data from the International Space Station. Users can take a virtual 3-D tour of the Mission Control Center and the space station, and view mission control console displays with real-time data. Interactive educational lessons using the data, as well as crew and science timelines with individual crew member, social media and international science experiment details are also available via the app.

The space agency calls ISSLive! an innovative, interactive application that provides a novel way to learn about the International Space Station while on the go. To learn more and find links to download the ISSLive! app, visit spacestationlive.jsc.nasa.gov. That's where you will find the icons for the iPhone App Store and the Android Market.

I'm David Black, KB4KCH, from the South-East bureau in Birmingham, Alabama.

--

Once again that URL is spacestationlive.jsc.nasa.gov. (NASA)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: NASA CONSIDERING LAGRANGE POINT OUTPOST

NASA is pressing forward on assessing the value of a human-tended outpost near the far side of the moon. One that would embrace international partnerships as well as commercial and academic participation,

According to SPACE.com, William Gerstenmaier is NASA's Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and operations. And in a February 3rd memo Gerstenmaier says that a team is being formed to develop a cohesive plan for exploring a spot in space known as the Earth-moon Lagrange point.

Lagrange points sometimes called liberation points, are places in space where the combined gravitational pull of two large masses roughly balance each other out. This would allow a spacecraft or other object

to essentially park in that spot without being pulled toward either one of the masses.

A pre-memo NASA appraisal of Lagrange Point EML-2, which is near the lunar far side, has spotlighted this destination as the leading option for a near-term space study. EML-2 could serve as a gateway for exploration of multiple destinations including near-lunar space, our own moon, asteroids, the moons of Mars and ultimately, the red planet itself. (Space.com)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING THE US ISLANDS AWARD PROGRAM

On the air listen out for KL7JR and XYL WL7MY who will be active from the Big Island of Hawaii between April 1st to the 15th. This venture is in celebrating the 18th anniversary of the U.S. Islands Awards program. Operation will be on 80 through 10 meters using the callsign NH7DX. QSL via KL7JR (Southgate)

**

ON THE AIR: HAM RADIO COMMEMORATES THE BATTLE OF SHILOH BATTLE

While a bit short notice, word that the NorthEast Mississippi Amateur Radio Club will be operating a special event station March 30th and April 1st. This in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War Battle of Shiloh, in Tennessee.

The ham radio commemorative will have two stations set up on the grounds of the Shiloh Military Park. Frequencies used will be in the lower part of the General class SSB portions of the High Frequency bands which include the Technician frequencies on 10 meters. Certificates and QSL will be available after the operation has concluded.

The ham radio operation will be held in conjunction with a special reenactment held by Blue Gray Alliance. For more information please e-mail event coordinator Charles Buster, NA5MS to cebuster (at) ms (dot) metrocast (dot) net. (NA5MS)

**

RADIOSPORTS: THE 2012 HOLYLAND CONTEST APRIL 20 - 21

The 2012 Holyland Contest sponsored by the Israel Amateur Radio Club is slated to begin on Friday, April 20th at 21:00 UTC and conclude on Saturday April 21st at 21.00 UTC. Special trophies and newly certificates will be issued to participating hams and SWL's for different classes and modes of operation. The Israel Amateur Radio Club adds that it invites the world-wide ham radio community to be on the bands during the contest as an exercise in the spirit of friendship between all radio amateurs. More about the contest is on line at www.iarc.org. (4Z0X)

**

DX

In DX, F8ATS will be active portable 6W from Senegal between March 30th and April 7th. Operations will be holiday style probably on all HF bands. QSL via the Bureau is preferred.

DL7BC will be on the air from Mayotte through April 6th using the callsign TO7BC on 80 through 10 meters. QSL to his home callsign, either direct or via the bureau.

OH4MDY will be active as XV2RZ from Vietnam until April 16th and says that this time he will pay special attention to digital modes. No frequencies or operating hours are known. QSL via his home callsign, direct only.

ZB3M and ZB2ER will activate the special callsigns ZQ3M and ZQ2ER from Gibraltar between May 5th and June 10th. This operation is to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. QSL via ZB3M direct only. No bureau or electronic QSL's will be accepted for this one.

An international team will activate the callsign E51M from the North Cook Islands from March 28th to April 10th. They will operate on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. The QSL manager is DJ8NK.

Lastly, KV1J will be operating from Miquelon Island stroke F-P between July 10th and the 17th. His activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. He will generally be on the highest frequency band that is open, and he may try 6 meters if there is an indications of propagation. Also, look for him on the satellites, weather permitting. QSL via KV1J, direct, via the bureau or electronically using Logbook of the World.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: STRANGE MORSE FROM SPACE

And finally this week, it appears as if radio astronomers have discovered mysterious sources of extremely high-powered radiation across the universe. Amateur Radio Newsline's Newsline's space-faring, roving reporter Pierre Pullinmyleg, says that hams are helping to unravel the mystery.

--

Scientists at NASA say the Fermi space telescope has discovered hundreds of super-high-energy gamma ray sources at the very top end of the electromagnetic spectrum, and that more than a third of them are complete mysteries. Adding to the mystery is the pattern of these gamma rays on spectrograms, showing short bursts of energy that resemble dots and longer ones that look like dashes.

Several radio astronomers who are also radio amateurs noticed these patterns and performed two sets of calculations with amazing results. The frequencies on which the gamma ray sources were discovered correspond with the two-billionth harmonic of 20 meters, and distance calculations show that, had the signals originated on Earth and been re-radiated back toward us, the dates of origin always seem to match up with the dates of major CW contests here on Earth.

One spectrogram currently making the rounds in ham radio astronomy circles clearly shows a pattern which, in Morse code, would read: "Di-dah, di-dah-dah-dit, di-dah-dit, di-dit, di-dah-di-dit," followed by a space and "di-di-dah-dit, dah-dah-dah, dah-dah-dah, di-dah-di-dit." Another reason, they say, to know code.

Reporting from near Alpha Centauri, this is Pierre Pullinmyleg for Newsline.

--

More details on the Fermi Space Telescope's findings and current sample spectrograms are available online at science dot nasa dot gov. We are told that the spectrograms Pierre alluded to in his report are not scheduled to be released until sometime after the 1st of April, in the year 2112. (Pierre Pullinmyleg Annual April 1st Technology Report)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editor's desk, I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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90. W5YI SK

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-30 14:13:32 UTC
From: Jeff Davis <ke9v@sdf.org>
Message-ID: <slrn3vfsjnbdbt.25o.ke9v@sverige.freeshell.org>
Source record: 409
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

The W5YI Web site is reporting that:

With sincere regrets we announce the passing of Fred Maia, W5YI,
Wednesday evening, March 28, 2012, following a brave battle with cancer.

--
Jeff, KE9V

91. KCOMM, The Ham Store in San Antonio Closing, Parking Lot Hamfest March 31, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-30 14:21:25 UTC
From: rick <audiosells@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <XZCdnaUd7dlPIujSnZ2dnUVZ5hWdnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 410
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.swap,rec.radio.info

A unique resource for Hams in Texas is closing it's doors on Saturday
March 31, 2012, KCOMM, The Ham Store, will be shutting down.

As a result, the last Saturday of the month hamfests will also be ending,

so, show up on Saturday morning at 8:00 AM for free coffee and the last
parking lot swapfest in San Antonio.

Bring your gear and buy, sell, swap, and trade!

No admission, no charges, just come, say goodbye to Craig, Ed, and Mel,
and have a good time.

Thanks,
KI5SL

92. Re: W5YI SK

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-30 14:57:08 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <4f75c777$0$32250$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 411

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <slrn3vfsjnbdbt.25o.ke9v@sverige.freeshell.org> Jeff Davis <ke9v@sdf.org> writes:

>The W5YI Web site is reporting that:

>With sincere regrets we announce the passing of Fred Maia, W5YI,
>Wednesday evening, March 28, 2012, following a brave battle with cancer.

>--
>Jeff, KE9V

Fred was a unique, and sometimes controversial, character in amateur
radio.

My initial association with him was as a Volunteer Examiner (VE) under
his VE Coordination (VEC) program while at the University of Maryland
and its amateur radio club, W3EAX. Fred had approached many clubs,
including ours, shortly after the Goldwater bill was passed in 1982,
enabling regulations by the FCC to have volunteers give amateur radio
exams were published, and VEC's were accredited by the FCC. So the UM
club sponsored one of the first VE teams in the area. Even several
years afterwards, during the time I was a club member and VE, the
examination sessions were well-attended, with automobile license plates
from as far away as New Jersey. These sessions continued well into the
early 90's, with ARRL and Laurel VEC teams giving more local exams, and
the membership base, especially Extra-class amateurs, declining in the
UM club after I had graduated.

Fred was also an enthusiastic volunteer for my (now-defunct) Amateur
Radio Elmers Resource Directory.

The main criticism of Fred seemed to have been about his for-profit
business, offering to file FCC paperwork for a fee, which can be
submitted for free. Fee-based assistance with filing free applications
with the government was not unique with Fred, nor unique to amateur
radio, and was strictly legal. However, I can see how it rubbed some
amateurs the wrong way.

There were occasional irregularities with W5YI VEC-sponsored exam
sessions, but that was not unique to W5YI. Other VEC programs had their
occasional bad apples that had to be routed out. At no time during any
W5YI (or ARRL) VEC exam sessions that I helped administer over the years
did I personally witness anything illegal or unethical.

Rest in peace, Fred. Amateur radio is just a little bit diminished
without you here with us on this earth.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFPdcdB6Pj0az779o4RAtMOAJwP+IfORTBaWnX1rANoOY9YZZrQBgCeJ4AK
lJQZ5cYwn53V6hwnD1WHjR8=
=9nTH
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

93. Re: W5YI SK

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-03-30 15:12:19 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <biibn7di1iqiv883ohufirbferr59o9276@4ax.com>
Source record: 412

On Fri, 30 Mar 2012 10:57:08 EDT, Paul W. Schleck
<pschleck@oasis.novia.net>" wrote:

>The main criticism of Fred seemed to have been about his for-profit
>business, offering to file FCC paperwork for a fee, which can be
>submitted for free. Fee-based assistance with filing free applications
>with the government was not unique with Fred, nor unique to amateur
>radio, and was strictly legal. However, I can see how it rubbed some
>amateurs the wrong way.

ARRL also charges a fee to renew licenses of non-ARRL-members.

I am an ARRL/VEC accredited VE. If someone comes to one of my
sessions and asks us to renew his license (without taking any exams),
we have to charge him a fee. However, I tell him to save his money,
and that after the session I will help him to renew his license online
for free.

As I am the team leader for the ARRL/VEC exam team in my town, my name
and phone number is on all the publicity for the exams, and I have
become the go-to guy for anyone in my town who has a problem with
licenses. If I can't help them fix it, I usually can find out how.

Dick Grady, AC7EL
Team Leader and Liaison of the Pahrump, NV VE Team

94. FCC Daily Digest 04/03/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-03 16:12:43 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-519603-2012.04.03-11.26.27--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 413
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 64 April 03, 2
012

[...]

Released: 04/02/2012. COMMISSION SEEKS COMMENT ON EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIO
NS BY AMATEUR RADIO AND IMPEDIMENTS TO AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS. (DA No
. 12-523). (Dkt No 12-91). Comments Due: 05/17/2012. WTB . Contact: Wi
lliam T. Cross at (202) 418-0680, email: William.Cross@fcc.gov or Aaron Gar
za at (202) 418-1175, email: Aaron.Garza@fcc.gov, TTY: (202) 418-7233 http
://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-523A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-523A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-523A1.txt

[...]

95. ARRL Legislative Action Newsletter - April 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-03 19:55:06 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120403185038.3E914206FF@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 414
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Thanks for subscribing to the ARRL Legislative Action Newsletter. Please find attached a PDF of the first issue for 2012. Page 1 highlights the successful passage of the ARRL-proposed study on the impact of CC&Rs on Amateur Radio emergency communications. On Pages 2 & 3 you will find information on an important immediate request for action in support of that study. Thanks to you we have been able to get this far in our quest to assist Amateurs negatively impacted by CC&Rs. We need your continued assistance to keep this on track!

73

Dan Henderson, N1ND
Regulatory Information Manager
ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio
860-594-0236 dhenderson@arrl.org

Legislative Update - Issue # 4
March 30, 2011
ARRL - 225 Main Street - Newington, CT 06111
Edited by Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Regulatory Information Manager

FCC Directed to Study Amateur Radio Tower Restrictions

The Amateur Radio community and ARRL took notice when President Obama signed the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 into law on February 22. Included in that Act were the provisions that the ARRL has championed the past few years to have a study undertaken to assess how private land use regulations impact how the Amateur Service interfaces and supports emergency and disaster communications. These provisions, contained in Section 6414 of the Act, achieve what the ARRL had been proposing and incorporated H.R. 81 and S. 191 that the League had been supporting in the current Congress.

"The next six-months will be busy and important in this arena," says ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "The passage of the act into law started a 180-day clock for the FCC to conduct their study and report the findings back to Congress. We expect the FCC to issue a public notice and open a forty- five day comment period for the public by the end of March. The public comments will be part of the record on which the FCC bases its report. ARRL members are encouraged to make thoughtful, direct and concise comments to the FCC once that process opens."

The act directs that the FCC evaluate how to enhance Amateur Radio's role in working with emergency and disaster relief agencies. It also directs that the Commission identify "impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications, such as the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations" and to make "recommendations regarding the removal of such impediments." It is important to note that this act does not overturn existing private land use regulations, commonly known as covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs).

The ARRL leadership has discussing its plan of action, focusing on how to provide the most accurate and best information to the Commission for its consideration. They are also discussing the best approach on how to mobilize the ARRL membership, so OUR voices will be heard on this topic. You will find a specific call to action in this newsletter. Please help by taking the actions requested.

Time is of the essence on this topic! The legislation requires the FCC to report its findings back to Congress within 180-days. The window for public comments to the FCC will only be open for 45-days. When asked to provide your input, please do so quickly.

If you had previously written your US Congress person or Senator asking them to support either H.R. 81 or S. 191, now is the time to follow up that request with a letter of thanks. Showing our appreciation now may help keep the door open the next time Amateur Radio needs their support!

1

ARRL Needs Your Assistance to Gather Information on How CC&Rs and Deed Restrictions Impact You!

In February 2012, as part of Public Law No. 112-96, Congress directed the FCC to undertake a study, with a report of the findings to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. This study would "use the expertise of stakeholder entities and organizations" to recommend how to best use radio amateurs in emergency communications and disaster relief efforts, and how to best utilize the Amateur Radio Service in coordination with the federal government in these efforts. In addition, the study would also discuss the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations and recommend ways to remove such impediments. This is the study championed by the ARRL for several years and was known as the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act". This act was introduced into the 112th Congress as H.R. 81 and S. 191.

Under the provision of the act, the FCC has 180-days to prepare their report commencing with the signing of the statute into law. We are now if that period. As part of their study, the FCC has solicited public comment in a Public Notice DA12-523 on two specific areas related to the study. There is a 45-day deadline for public comments on the public

notice. The FCC must receive all comments no later than May 17, 2012.

As the national organization for Amateur Radio, and as a principle proponent of this study, the ARRL has issued a call for all Amateurs - whether ARRL members or not - to submit their comments and assist. To facilitate information gathering, the ARRL has set up a website to allow members to submit pertinent information for inclusion with the ARRL comments at www.arrl.org/ccr-study-information

The ARRL will present a detailed summary of anecdotal examples of the effect of CC&Rs and homeowner's association rules on Amateur Radio emergency communications. What we need from you are the actual, personal experiences of a geographically diverse group of radio amateurs who are subject to CC&Rs or other private land use restrictions where they live; who can tell us very specifically of the adverse effect of those restrictions on their ability to prepare for and to provide emergency and disaster relief communications.

Most importantly, Amateurs need to explain why they did not have an option when it came to purchasing real property. Was your decision based on the pervasiveness of private land use restrictions of properties you were considering? Did these restrictions preclude or unreasonably restrict the installation and maintenance of outdoor Amateur Radio antennas? Did they subject the radio amateur to the unlimited discretion of a homeowners' association, architectural control committee or other non-government decision maker requiring their permission in order to erect and maintain an effective antenna? Is your full participation in EmCom affected by these land use restrictions?

We need fact-based information, including the text of any CC&Rs to which amateurs are subject. We need to know about your efforts to find non-restricted places to live in their metropolitan areas. We need to know about the denial of approvals by HOA boards. You should mention specifically the effect of their restrictions on your ability to do and prepare for emergency communications. We need as much specificity as you can provide. We need your contact information in order to follow up if necessary (by telephone or e-mail.)

2

The website has links to web pages that allow Amateurs to provide their information easily on-line. The first form addresses the role that Amateur Radio has played in providing Emergency and Disaster Relief communications. If you have participated in an EmCom event or deployment since January 1, 2000, we ask you to provide specific information on the activation.

The second form provides for the collection of information on how private land use restrictions – such as property conditions, homeowner association covenants, and deed restrictions – have impeded the ability of licensees to full participate in emergency and disaster relief operations. It also allows you to provide details of how the CC&R has

affected your participation in EmCom. It also provides the ability to upload a more detailed explanation of your situation, as well as providing copies of your actual CC&Rs or deed restrictions.

It is important to remember that CC&Rs are not the same as city and town zoning and building ordinances. The FCC already has extended a limited preemption to city and town ordinances thru PRB-1. This study also does not cover restrictions imposed on leased property, such as lease restrictions for apartment dwellers. What this study specifically focus on are restrictions imposed on your ability to erect antennas and support structures that are imposed by private groups, such as your neighborhood sub-development Home Owners Association or Architectural Standards Committee.

In order to gather as much accurate data as possible, please keep your comments confined to your direct knowledge and participation in events. It is not helpful to have exaggerated claims or second-hand information such as "well a couple of towns over I heard they had an ARES net because of a flash flood." Our goal is to present as forceful, fact-based record as possible.

It is important that when reporting CC&Rs that have affected you that you provide a copy of the pertinent portion of the covenant for inclusion in the report. If you can scan it or have a digital copy of the CC&R, you may email it to CCRINFO@arrl.org If you need to send a hard copy, it may be sent: CCR Information Study, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington CT 06111.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. Because of the short window by the FCC for comments, and the short deadline for the final report back to Congress, the ARRL must have your input by MONDAY APRIL 30, 2012. This allows us time to compile the results into a useful and manageable presentation for the Commission. If you have any questions, contact Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Regulatory Information Manager at (860) 594-0236 or at dhenderson@arrl.org

3

A Message from ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN

The ARRL's major legislative goal for this session of Congress has been realized!

Would I have liked to see our stand-alone bills about Amateur Radio passed by Congress and signed into law by the President of the United States? You bet! Realistically, however, the climate in Washington today is so harsh that getting our study approved as part of other legislation is a significant victory.

Your help is now needed to ensure that the study furthers the ARRL's long-time fight to eliminate land use restrictions that prevent so many American Amateurs from having antennas. Please respond to the call in this newsletter, if you can give us information that bolsters the

effort.

The same legislation that brought about the study also wrote "The End" to the story of H.R. 607's threat to our access to 420-440 MHz. The legislation reallocated the so-called D Block of spectrum, but did not include the reduction in Amateur Radio spectrum privileges proposed in H.R. 607.

The League will continue to work on other legislative goals at the federal level. In addition, at the state and local levels, vigilance is needed to make sure that legislation and ordinances affecting Amateur Radio do not hinder our ability to fulfill the purposes set forth for our radio service in Part 97. The ARRL Section Field Organization has appointments available for members with an interest in state and local government affairs. Please contact your Section Manager using the contact information on page 16 of QST to find out if one of these appointments is interesting to you.

As concerned citizens and active advocates for Amateur Radio, you can be sure that your volunteer efforts are essential and sincerely appreciated by the ARRL Headquarters Staff and the Board of Directors.

73,

Kay Craigie, N3KN

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96. FCC Issues Public Notice Soliciting Comments on Impediments to Amateur Radio Communications

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-04 13:39:10 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120404124613.BE0ED204C8@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 415
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Do you live in a CC&R- restricted community or participate in EmCom activities? Have deed restrictions / HOA covenants prevented you from erecting amateur radio antennas? Have these restrictions prevented you from full participation in emergency communications activities during disasters?

If your answer is "Yes", ARRL needs to hear about your experience.

As you are probably aware, Congress has directed the FCC to conduct a study of the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief. The FCC was directed to identify " impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications, such as the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations". Finally, the study is to make "recommendations regarding the removal of such impediments."

The FCC has issued a Public Notice - DA 12-523- soliciting input from the public as part of their study. The ARRL is gathering comments from the Amateur Radio community to present as part of its comments on the public notice.

The ARRL is looking specifically for input in two specific areas:
- Recent Amateur Radio involvement in actual emergency communications and disaster relief;
- Specific details about how CC&Rs and other private land use restrictions have impaired licensed Amateurs to participate fully in these disaster relief communications.

If your ability to participate in ARES, RACES, SKYWARN, CERT, or other emergency and disaster relief communications has been limited because the inability to have adequate antennas due to CC&Rs, you are asked to provide that information to the ARRL.

First, we recommend that you prepare a narrative of your exact situation, in as much detail as practical. Some areas for you to consider in writing your story might be:
- Were there alternative properties without CC&Rs in the area you wished to reside?
- What exactly does your CC&R allow / prohibit (please include a copy of the specific wording)
- Have you applied for a waiver of the CC&R with the Home Owner's Association / Architectural Review Committee but were denied? If so, what was the reason?

To assist you in sharing your information with the ARRL, please visit the special ARRL website built to allow you to readily provide the pertinent information at www.arrl.org/ccr-study-information

This page will present you with an overview of what we are asking and have links to the two forms for you to complete. Please be as factual as you can with the information you provide and please provide only information about events and activities in which you were directly involved.

If you wish to write out the details of your situation in advance, please do so. They can be either uploaded from the website or they can be sent as an email attachment to an email sent to CCRinfo@arrl.org

Keep in mind that the FCC study does not apply to ordinances and zoning laws implemented by the government - such as towns, cities or counties. PRB-1 covers those situations.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE! Congress directed that the FCC provide the report back within 180-days and that clock is already counting. The FCC is only accepting comments for a 45-day period, which will end May 17,2012. In order for the ARRL to collate your information in a common report, we ask that you send in your information no later than WEDNESDAY APRIL 25. If you need more information, please contact reginfo@arrl.org The time to act is NOW!

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ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio
860-594-0236
dhenderson@arrl.org

ARRL Midwest Division
Director: Cliff Ahrens, K0CA
k0ca@arrl.org

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97. The ARRL Letter for April 5, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-05 20:36:57 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120405200215.AF01A252D4@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 416
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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April 5, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- On the Air: ARRL Seeks Comments on Proposed 33 cm Band Plan
- + ARRL Field Day: Be Ready for Field Day in Official Field Day Gear
from the ARRL
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- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ON THE AIR: FCC SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
BY AMATEUR RADIO AND IMPEDIMENTS TO AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

In response to the Congressional directive to prepare a study to
assess Amateur Radio's role in emergency and disaster communications
and the impact of private land use regulations on the Amateur
community's ability to provide such communications, the FCC issued DA
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12-523 soliciting comments from the public. The period for public comment runs until May 17, 2012.

"As part of the study contained in Public Law No. 112-96, the Commission has opened a 45 day period for comments to be filed on the issue," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Because of the short deadline for the study to be completed and presented to Congress -- before the end of August -- the ARRL and the amateur community must quickly mobilize their response." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-public-comments-on-emergency-communications-by-amateur-radio-and-impediments-to-amateur-ra>.

==> ON THE AIR: ARRL SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 33 CM BAND PLAN

A few months ago, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee asked the Amateur Radio community about current, planned and projected uses of the amateur bands between 902 MHz-3.5 GHz. The response was beyond our expectations, with hundreds of comments and suggestions received. After reading the feedback, the Committee began working on the band plans, and the draft plan for 33 cm (902-928 MHz) is now ready for review. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-comments-on-proposed-33-cm-band-plan>.

==> + ARRL FIELD DAY: BE READY FOR FIELD DAY IN OFFICIAL FIELD DAY GEAR FROM THE ARRL

You've spent all year preparing for ARRL Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/fieldday>, but there are still a few things you're missing: The official 2012 Field Day shirt, hat, pin and logbook! ARRL Field Day -- Amateur Radio's largest on-the-air operating event -- is just a little more than two months away, so be sure to get your gear before supplies run out. This year's ARRL Field Day shirt is a khaki T-shirt that sports the 2012 Field Day logo atop a pocket, with the ARRL diamond logo and "Ham Radio" on the back. Shirts are available in sizes Small-4XL. The hat -- which has "Field Day" emblazoned on its front -- is Texas Orange and is color-coordinated with this year's logo. New for 2012 is the ARRL Field Day Logbook. This nifty logbook is set up in the Field Day reporting format and includes dupe sheets and other forms that you need to have to ensure a successful Field Day. Clubs, order early! Collect orders from members and place a single order -- pay only $12.50 shipping for orders over $50 (while supplies last). ARRL Field Day is June 23-24, 2012. Fulfill all your Field Day apparel needs at the Field Day Supplies section of the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Field-Day-Supplies/>.

==> + ARRL FIELD DAY: ARRL PR COMMITTEE TO HOST FIELD DAY WEBINAR

The ARRL Public Relations Committee will be holding a free webinar entitled Field Day Press Release <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/278619454> on Thursday, April 12 at 9 PM (EDT). This webinar is geared for those who want to learn the easiest -- and most effective -- ways to write up a media release for

Field Day and actually get it noticed by the media in your home region. Learn the "tricks of the trade" from the people who actually work in radio, television and print media. ARRL Public Relations Committee Chairman Steven Polunsky, W5SMP, will host the event; Polunsky is also the Public Information Coordinator for the ARRL's South Texas Section. Joining Polunsky are Bill Husted, KQ4YA (print), Mark Kraham, W8CMK (TV) and Don Carlson, KQ6FM (radio). Space is limited -- reserve your spot today <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/278619454>.

==> + GOOGLE DECLARES "MORSE CODE IS PERFECT" WITH NEW GMAIL TAP MAIL PROGRAM

On April 1 (yes, April Fools' Day), Google announced that it has unveiled a new way to use its popular Gmail e-mail system. Called Gmail Tap, it uses dots and dashes to form letters, a system of communicating that should be very familiar to radio amateurs. "Morse code is perfect," said Gmail Tap Engineer Mitch Fedenko. "It's just a dot and a dash. What's simpler than that?" Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/google-declares-morse-code-is-perfect-with-new-em-gmail-tap-em-mail-program>.

==> + STEPHEN KLINEFELTER TAKES OVER AS NEW ARMY MARS CHIEF

On April 2, US Army Colonel (retired) Stephen G. Klinefelter -- a senior staff officer who oversees Army MARS operations for the US Army Network Enterprise Technology Command -- announced that he was assuming the post of Chief of Army MARS, effective immediately. Klinefelter, 61, took the leading role last December in untangling a Pentagon decision to "phase out" the Army MARS Winlink 2000 messaging system, used by numerous state and municipal emergency management organizations; an investigation showed it lacked required certification for safety from hostile incursions. He successfully argued that the resources of Amateur Radio -- not just MARS or Winlink -- far outweighed any risk from enemy hackers. Lieutenant General Susan Lawrence, the Army's Chief Information Officer, ordered an exemption from this policy for Army MARS, which officials said would extend to the Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps MARS programs, too. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/stephen-klinefelter-takes-over-as-new-army-mars-chief>.

==> + SILENT KEY: FRED MAIA, W5YI (SK)

The holder of one of the best-known US Amateur Radio call signs, Frederick "Fred" Maia, W5YI, of Arlington, Texas, died of cancer on March 28. He was 76. Maia was a leading Amateur Radio journalist for nearly 35 years and a pioneer of the Volunteer Examiner program adopted by the FCC in 1984, and was the first Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) appointed by the FCC. Maia subsequently founded The W5YI Group in 1986 to develop, publish and sell amateur and commercial radio license study materials. In the realm of FCC commercial radio licensing, Fred formed National Radio Examiners to provide examination services. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fred-maia-w5yi-sk>.

==> + ON THE AIR: W1AW CLAIMS 5BDXCC

Nearly four decades after the introduction of the Five Band DXCC Award (5BDXCC <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-award-information>), W1AW <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw>, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station has achieved this milestone. "As with most stations, we found that 80 meters was our stumbling block," W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, explained. "One by one, we picked off the needed entities, and W1AW now holds 5BDXCC #7307. W1AW's 5BDXCC plaque will hang in a place of honor at the station."

Prior to achieving 5BDXCC, W1AW held DXCC <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-award-information> on 40-10 meters for many years, but was always searching for the last few remaining entities on 80 meters. Carcia said that at least 90 percent of the confirmations were made via Logbook of The World, (LoTW <http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>), but the last contacts #99 and #100 on 80 meters were confirmed via traditional QSL cards.

W1AW currently holds Five Band Worked All Continents Award (5BWAC <http://www.arrl.org/wac>), Five Band Worked All States Award (5BWAS <http://www.arrl.org/was>), Worked All Continents Award (WAC) on CW, RTTY and Phone, Mixed DXCC (with 250 entities confirmed) and DXCC for Digital, CW and Phone.

"Now that W1AW has 5BDXCC, we are gunning for DXCC Honor Roll <http://www.arrl.org/system/dxcc/view/DXCC-HR-20120402-A4.pdf>," Carcia said. "Like with 5BDXCC, there are just a few more entities to go before W1AW can claim this award."

==> ON THE AIR: ARRL ROOKIE ROUNDUP'S THIRD YEAR INCLUDES NEW CATEGORIES

With the Rookie Roundup beginning its third year of competition, 2012 brings some new changes in the event -- including new entry categories. The first Rookie Roundup of 2012 will use SSB (phone) and will be held on Sunday, April 15 from 1800-2359 UTC. All amateurs are welcome to participate, especially those in DX locations.

The focus of the RR remains those who are newly licensed -- hams who received their very first license during the current year or the two previous calendar years (2012, 2011 or 2010). Those licensed before 2010 are encouraged to get on and work the Rookies. Or consider acting as an Elmer and coaching Rookies in their contest efforts without actually making QSOs -- or performing logging or any other station functions. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-rookie-roundup-s-third-year-includes-new-categories>.

==> TWO NEW BOOKS AND DIGITAL SOFTWARE LIBRARY -- NOW SHIPPING!

The ARRL has just released two new books and a digital software library that you are going to want to have in your shack: Hints & Kinks for the Radio Amateur (18th edition) and Short Antennas for 160 Meter Radio by

Grant Bingeman, KM5KG. The newest version of Software Library for Hams is also available as an immediate download or on CD-ROM. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/two-new-books-and-digital-software-library-now-shipping>.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of March -- takes a look at upcoming ARRL member benefits, new privileges for radio amateurs on 60 meters, forthcoming ARRL publications, happenings at W1AW, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-44>.

==> ARRL HQ: TWO POSITIONS OPEN AT ARRL HQ

The League is currently looking to fill two open positions at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. One position is in the Membership and Volunteer Programs Department <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/About%20ARRL/Employment/Awards%20and%20Programs%20Assistant%20%282%29.pdf>
and the other is in the Education Services Department <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/About%20ARRL/Employment/FT%20Ed%20Svcs%20Instruction%20and%20Resource%20Coordinator-announce%20Mar12%20%282%29.pdf>.
To apply, please send your cover letter and resume via e-mail <mlevesque@arrl.org>, or complete the application <http://www.arrl.org/files/media/News/Revised_Employment_Application.pdf>, print it out and mail it with your resume and cover letter to Monique Levesque, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. You can also fax your application, cover letter and resume to 860-594-0298. Please include your salary history and salary requirements. The ARRL is an equal opportunity employer. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/two-positions-open-at-arrl-hq>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "I remember April when the Sun was in the sky <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igs54heetSI>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Over the past week, the average daily sunspot number and solar flux values rose slightly, even though as the week progressed, each day had a lower number than the day before. The daily sunspot number began the week at a high of 100, but ended at 60. Likewise, the daily solar flux started at 111.5, ending with 102.1. The mild geomagnetic conditions made for a quiet week, with the only unsettled conditions on April 1-2 in very high latitude regions, with Alaska's College A index at 11 and 17. From the April 4 USAF forecast, they see solar flux for April 5 at 105, April 6-7 at 110, 115 on April 8-10, followed by 110 on April 11, and then 100 on April 12-22. The next predicted short-term peak for solar flux is 130 on May 2-5. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Thursday, April 5. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation

page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by David Cassidy's Daydreamer <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daydreamer_%28David_Cassidy_song%29>.

==> + ARRL TO CLOSE IN OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY

ARRL Headquarters will be closed in observance of Good Friday on Friday, April 6. There will be no W1AW bulletin or code practice transmissions <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> that day. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Monday, April 9 at 8 AM Eastern Daylight Time. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: ERIC P. NICHOLS, KL7AJ, WINS MARCH QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for March is Eric P. Nichols, KL7AJ, for his article "Three Wrong Assumptions about the Ionosphere." Congratulations Eric! The QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the April issue today.

==> NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- How many times have you attended the Dayton Hamvention®?
- Have you used your new 60 meter CW or digital privileges?
- Do you use software to control your transceiver?
- When was the last time you inspected your antenna feed lines?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the July 2012 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- April 6 -- NCCC RTTY Sprint
- April 7 -- LZ Open 40 Meter Sprint Contest; PODXS 070 Club PSK 31 Flavors Contest (local time)
- April 7-8 -- QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party; SP DX Contest
- April 11 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
- April 11-12 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- April 13 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Apr 13
- April 14 -- EU Spring Sprint (CW)
- April 14-15 -- Georgia QSO Party; Montana QSO Party; New Mexico QSO Party; QCWA Spring QSO Party; JIDX CW Contest; Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest
- April 15 -- ARRL Rookie Roundup (SSB) <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>; International Vintage Contest HF Contest; Hungarian Straight Key Contest
- April 17 -- 222 MHz Spring Sprint (local time)

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- April 7 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest-1>, Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 14 -- ARRL Delta Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delta-division-convention-3>, Bartlett, Tennessee
- April 14-15 -- Communications Academy 2012 <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2012>, Seattle, Washington
- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho; 63rd International DX Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>, Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radio-electronics-expo-1>, Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe, Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>, Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,

Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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98. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1808 - April 6 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-06 09:00:12 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120406090003.4BD8A33C94@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 417
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1808 - April 6 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1808 with a release date of April 6th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The FCC issues a Notice of Inquiry on ham radios role in emergency communications and the way land use restrictions may be impeding this vital public service while the ARRL asks you to assist it in responding to the FCC on this matter. Also, Canada issues its first 60 meter developmental license; a Kansas ham survives a lightning strike and friends pay homage to the ham who loved Morse but is credited with bringing code free licensing to the United States. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1808 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC ISSUES INQUIRY ON THE FUTURE OF HAM RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

The FCC is taking a look at amateur radios role in emergency communications. It also wants to know about obstacles to ham radio operations such as Conditions, Covenants and Restrictions better known as C C and R's that keep radio amateurs from being able to fulfill their public service duties. It's done this in a Public Notice given the identifier of G N Docket 12-91 also known as DA 12-523. Amateur Radio Newsline's David Black, KB4KCH, is here with the details.

--

Just how important is amateur radio during emergencies? What is ham radio's value to the community when disasters strike? The FCC wants to hear from you about these questions, because the Commission has a lot of homework to do for Congress. Most hams know that helping serve the community is one of the primary reasons the amateur radio service was founded.

Hams have a long history of helping during emergencies. They maintain close relationships with the National Weather Service and other public safety groups. When tornadoes raked Arkansas and Alabama in January, radio amateurs provided important communications support. They were active, as well, when a severe winter storm knocked out power and communications to villages along the Bering Sea in November, 2011.

The Commission is required to study amateur radio as part of a Public Law known as the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. The FCC is to analyze ham radio's uses and capabilities during emergencies, and to submit its findings to House and Senate Committees.

The law also requires the Commission to analyze ham radio's importance as it relates to protecting lives and property. The Commission is to provide recommendations on how to enhance voluntary deployment of ham radio operators when needed. The law compels FCC to evaluate how best to integrate amateur radio into furthering various federal government initiatives that might require communications support.

If there are impediments along the way, the law requires that the Commission find ways to remove them. For example, the law questions whether antenna restrictions or unnecessary private land use restrictions wind up causing more problems than they solve.

In doing its study, FCC is directed to reach out to various entities including amateur radio, as well as various disaster and emergency response organizations.

The Commission has been given a list of specific questions to ask. If you want to comment, you can answer those questions, but you can also submit other comments, too, as long as they relate to the study.

The questions seek examples on various scenarios where amateur radio played a key role relating to emergency response and disaster relief.

Specific benefits ham radio provided are to be named.

Another question asks for examples of when ham radio is an advantage over other forms of communications during emergencies, and when does it complement those other systems.

Other questions cover a wide range of subjects, all involving amateur radio's role, how it can best be utilized, communications training, activities, planning and much more. One topic raised is whether existing rules governing the amateur radio service might need modifying to better facilitate emergency communications. The changes could be of an operational nature...or perhaps some technical limitations need to be addressed. The study asks whether rules changes would be a good idea to encourage development of innovative new technologies, whether voice, data or perhaps video.

In the past, some amateur radio emergency groups have expressed the desire to be able to interconnect directly with public safety and health care communications systems during emergencies. The Commission is to look into whether this should be considered, and if doing so, would enable hams to better serve the public, or whether would pose problems.

The possibility of national certification standards is mentioned as another subject to investigate.

If there are any current Commission rules that serve as impediments to what hams try to accomplish during emergencies, the FCC is told to name them and assess whether they should be changed or lifted to make it easier on hams trying to help during disasters.

If you want to submit comments, you have until May 17th to do so. You can file your comments electronically or by mail. To submit comments electronically, go to apps.fcc.gov/ecfs. Paper filings must include an original and one copy for each filing. Those must be mailed to the Commission's Secretary. The address is: Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th St SW, Washington, DC, 20554.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline I'm David Black, KB4KCH, from Birmingham, AL.

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The FCC says that stakeholder entities and organizations, including the amateur radio, emergency response, and disaster communications communities, are particularly encouraged to submit comments. However the FCC says that those who do provide filings should not view this Public Notice as an opportunity to seek Commission rulings regarding specific situations. This is an overview inquiry only. And be certain to mention Docket 12-91 when you do submit your comments. The complete text of this FCC release can be downloaded in .PDF format at tinyurl.com/fcc-emcomm-study (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: ARRL SAYS IT NEEDS CCR RESTRICTION INFORMATION ASAP

In a related story, if you live in a CC&R restricted community, have deed restrictions or homeowners association covenants that have prevented you from erecting amateur radio antennas then the ARRL wants to hear from you.

The League says that it is looking for input in two specific areas. These are recent amateur radio involvement in actual emergency communications and disaster relief and specific details about how CC&R's and other private land use restrictions have impaired licensed amateurs to participate fully in these disaster relief communications.

If your ability to participate in ARES, RACES, SKYWARN, CERT, or other emergency and disaster relief communications has been limited because the inability to have adequate antennas due to such land use or owners association restrictions, you are asked to provide that information to the ARRL. Also to provide it as a narrative of your exact situation, giving as much detail as practical. Some areas for you to consider in writing your story might be:

Were there alternative properties without CC&Rs in the area you wished to reside?

The exact wording of what exactly does your CC&R's prohibit or allow.

Have you applied for a waiver of the CC&R with the Home Owner's Association Architectural Review Committee but were denied? If so, what was the reason?

Whether you are an ARRL member or not, your information and situation are important to helping the League make the case for all amateurs. Please provide your documentation to the ARRL as soon as possible but definitely before Wednesday April 25th. It can either be uploaded to the ARRL website at www.arrl.org/ccr-study-information or they can be sent as an e-mail attachment to an email sent to CCRinfo (at) arrl (dot) org. (ARRL)

**

RADIO RULES: CANADA BEGINS ISSUING 60 METER EXPERIMENTAL LICENSES

Canada has begun issuing experimental licenses for the 60 meter band. Regulator Industry Canada issued the first such developmental license on April 2nd to Russ Hemphill, VE3FI, to use the call sign VX9GHD at 5 MHz.

Canadian radio amateurs have been waiting three years for an opportunity to join the USA, Britain and other nations in making use of the 60 meter spectrum. When a true Canadian amateur radio allocation on 5 MHz meters might be approved is at this time unknown. (VE3FI)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the K-J-Zero-A repeater serving Maryland Heights Missouri.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER SURVIVES NEARBY LIGHTNING STRIKE

A ham radio severe weather spotter has survived a near-by lightning strike. According to news reports Bill Isles, KD0IIF, of Wichita, Kansas, is recovering after he survived a lightning strike and used his ham radio gear to call for help.

At 9:30pm Thursday, March 29, KD0IIF, who is a volunteer storm spotter was standing in his backyard. According to Isles, he could hear thunder and see lightning off in the distance, but did not think anything was quite that close to him. Suddenly he felt a shock from a nearby strike and was knocked to the ground. The only thing close was his amateur transceiver.

In a statement to a local Wichita station, Isles said that his whole body was twitching. Also that his radio had flown a little further ahead of him. He managed to grab it and put out a call for assistance.

Isles call was answered by Mike Mathia KD0IJO. Mathia and two other amateur radio operators called 911. Sedgwick County EMS soon arrived on the scene. The checked Isles condition and then transported him to a local hospital for further observation.

According to several reports, the odds of being hit by lightning are one in 835,000.

**

CRYPTIC NEWS RELEASE: RSGB SAYS IT IS PREPARED TO DEFEND MORSE

Is there some group somewhere wanting to rid ham radio of Morse Code? This, at a time when its popularity is growing at a rate almost as fast as it did when wireless was first introduced?

One might get that impression from a rather cryptic two paragraph news release issued by the Radio Society of Great Britain. The statement, published in the latest RSGB news is presented here by news reader Jeremy Boot, G4NJH:

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"Some say that CW has been made obsolete by modern digitmodes, which work well in conditions far too poor for the older mode.

"Now that Morse is no longer used in commercial radio traffic, the RSGB confirms that it would fight any moves to prohibit CW on amateur bands. The Society recognizes that Morse gives much pleasure to thousands of operators, and will continue to support its use."

--

Very interesting and also begs this question back to the Radio Society of Great Britain: If there is some honest to goodness organized threat to the use of Morse by radio amateurs, how about directly identifying those involved? After all, if you are doing news and have that specific information, it is your duty to the worlds ham radio public to tell all of us what's going on and who is behind any such anti-Morse movement. (RSGB/GB2RS)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: FM ON 50.079 NEAR ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

Intruders have come to the 6 meter band in the mid-West. Jay Morehouse, W9RM, near Rockford, Illinois, reports via the VHF Reflector that he has been monitoring stations running FM on 50.079.

According to W9RM, he first noticed them on Thursday, March 29th. All were running FM Push to Talk and speaking Spanish. Signal strength was S3 to 5 with some QSB monitoring with 7 element yagi at 80 feet.

Jay notes that there was no sign of any skywave propagation at the time he heard them.

W9RM asks anyone within a hundred or so miles of Rockford who has the time to keep an ear on 50.079 and if you hear the signal, try to get a bearing on it. He hopes that with enough stations on board that an exact fix on the location can be had fairly quickly.

You can contact Jay in care of RF Specialists Inc., PO Box 849, Hampshire Illinois, 60140 or by e-mail to w9rm (at) ARRL (dot) net.

(VHF Reflector)

**

ENFORCEMENT: TENNESSEE UNLICENSED BROADCASTER HIT WITH $10000 NAL

The FCC has issued a Notice of Apparent Liability in the amount of $22,000 to Arthur Lee Young of Cosby, Tennessee. This for his alleged operation of an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 87.9 MHz and refusing to allow an inspection of that radio station. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasik, K9BIK, has more:

--

In a March 27th release, The FCC's said that back on April 14, 2011, agents from the Enforcement Bureau's Atlanta Office used direction-finding techniques to locate the source of radio frequency transmissions on 87.9 MHz to Arthur Lee Young's residence. During that first visit, Young permitted an inspection of the radio station. He also admitted that he owned the radio equipment and voluntarily relinquished it to the agents. Case closed you would think? Well not so fast.

Only a few weeks ago on February 29th an agent from the Atlanta Office again used direction-finding techniques to locate the source of radio frequency transmissions on the frequency 87.9 MHz. Once again he T-hunted it to Young's residence. This time Young and his wife met with the agent outside of the residence, but Young refused to speak to with him. Young's wife, however, acknowledged that her husband was operating an unlicensed radio station from their home. The agent asked to inspect the station, but Mr. Young refused the request and walked away. That's when the agent informed Young that refusing to allow an inspection is a separate violation of the applicable law.

Now its' all come home to roost. In issuing the Notice of Apparent Liability the FCC says that Arthur Lee Young apparently willfully and repeatedly violated Section 301 of the Communications Act by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter. Also, that he violated Section 303 N of the Act by refusing the Commissions' agent access to inspect the station. Added the two violations together, and noting that the violation of Section 301 was repeated more than once, the FCC says that Young is apparently liable for forfeiture in the amount of $22,000.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

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As is always the case, Young was given the customary 30 days from the date of publication of the finding to pay or to file an appeal. (FCC)

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HAMVENTION 2012 NEWS: AFFILIATED EVENT PLANNERS NEED TO NOTIFY HAMVENTION WEBMASTER ASAP

The Dayton Hamvention website administrator is asking planners of affiliated events to advise him as to when and where these events will be taking place and to do so as soon as possible.

Hamvention Webmaster Richard Rieben, KE4WLE, says in a post to the Hamvention blog that as of now, listings are sparse. This is mainly because planners of these events have thus far not notified either himself or the Dayton Amateur Radio Association as to who is sponsoring this years ancillary events and where they are being held.

Reiben says that if your group is hosting or organizing an event and would like that event publicized in the Hamvention program and on the web site to please send the required information in a word document. This must include what it is, where and when its being held. Also you must include whom to contact, a daytime phone number, your e-mail and any website URL if you have one.

Please send this information by e-mail to program (at) Hamvention (dot) org. KE4WLE adds that the cut-off date for submissions is May 1st, but the soon you can get this material to him the better. Again the e-mail address where to send this information is program (at) Hamvention (dot) org. (KE4WLE, Hamvention remailer))

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: LEO LAPORTE, W6TWT, LIVE FROM NAB

Leo Laporte, W6TWT, will be bringing his popular netcast network, TWiT, This Week in Tech, to the upcoming National Association of Broadcasters Convention in Las Vegas the third week in April. This according to TWIT Live Events Producer Lynn Fu who says that for the second year in a row that TWIT will be the official streaming partner at giant NAB gathering.

Leo along with his team of high tech guru's will broadcast live from the TWiT stage inside the South Lower Hall from April 16th to the 19th. According to Fu, the plan is to take a look at the latest broadcasting products, content creation and distribution technologies, professional audio and video equipment and much more. Fu says the TWIT video crew will tour exhibition booths and interview vendors, using a variety of hosts to keep people entertained as they tune in. Unfortunately the workshops will not be streamed.

TWiT first aired in 2005, originally under the title "The Revenge of The Screen Savers." These days the TWiT Network gets around 5 million downloads a month. TWiT also produces such netcasts as Home Theater Geeks and of course Ham Nation which is hosted by Bob Heil, K9EID, and

Gordon West, WB6NOA. You can tune in the live coverage of NAB at live.twit.tv or access the coverage later via the TWIT TV website's on-demand feature. To get more information on TWiT, go to twit.tv. (Source: TWIT-TV; RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: HEIL SOUND TO AGAIN HOST HAB HAM RADIO RECEPTION

And speaking about Bob Heil, K9EID, he and his wife Sarah will again be co-hosting this years National Association of Broadcasters Convention Ham Radio Reception. This 2012 gathering takes place in Ballroom B at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel on Wednesday, April 18th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Pacific time.

According to K9EID, this event is open to all Amateur Radio operators attending the NAB convention. He notes that last year over 800 attendees enjoyed the free drinks, food and $16,000.00 worth of prizes that were given away.

Bob also tells Newsline Leo Laporte, W6TWT will live stream the entire two hours of the reception on his TWIT Internet television network at live.twit.tv. Also in attendance will be Bob's Ham Nation co-hosts Gordon West, WB6NOA and George Thomas, W5JDX. (K9EID) .

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: FRED MAIA, W5YI, - S.K.

The ham radio operator whose work in eliminating mandatory Morse testing and in turn appears to have escalated that mode to new heights of popularity has become a Silent Key. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, reports on the life and passing of Fred Maia, W5YI:

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We could probably safely say tens of thousands in the amateur radio community had some kind of contact with Fred Maia, W5YI, over the last 35 years.

Some may have been early readers of his W5YI Report.

Others may have been regular consumers of his "Ticket Talk" and, later, the monthly column, "Washington Readout," published in CQ magazine.

Still others may have had an even more intimate relationship with Fred and his work thanks to using his license study guides to get their ham tickets.

Maybe they even went to a W5YI-sponsored VE testing session and took their license exams under supervision of people who were trained by Fred Maia.

Still others who had a closer relationship with him and numbered among his friends say he was probably one of the most passionate promoters of the amateur radio service and ham radio licensing of his time.

His good friend and partner, Gordon West, WB6NOA, recalls the controversy W5YI generated when he led the campaign some years ago to eliminate the Morse Code from amateur radio license requirements. And, West says, this from a guy who loved CW and was really good at it.

"In the military, he was great at copying CW at 30, 40 and 50 wpm," West recalls Maia telling him.

"So, it was a bit by surprise that he would author rulemaking legislation that would ultimately lead to a code-free - he called it, Communicator Class license.

"That's right, he wanted to do away with what he felt was a barrier for new hams - the CW - knowing all too well that once the new ham got on the air they would begin to learn and love CW."

Rich Moseson, W2VU, editor of CQ magazine, says few may remember that it was Fred Maia who pressed the FCC on the volunteer examination program for ham radio licensing.

"One of the leading people behind the implementation of the volunteer examining program and when that came to fruitition, he was one of the first people who applied to be a volunteer examiner coordinator and, in fact, was the first person or organization named as a VEC," Moseson recalls.

Moseson says he had lots of interaction with W5YI about his popular "Washington Readout," column for CQ. Moseson says it was one of the most popular and well read parts of CQ every month.

Moseson says it's difficult to quantify the impact Maia had on so many who are hams today.

"His devotion to the amateur radio service was unparalleled and he was responsible for helping untold thousands of people become hams or get their licenses upgraded or get the call signs that they wanted both through his column in CQ and through his W5YI-VEC organization," Moseson says.

Moseson says Maia actually retired from the W5YI-VEC group back in 2000 and turned the management of it over to Larry Pollock, NB5X, but still had an extensive hand in its operations. Moseson says it will continue as it has for the past 12 years.

As far as the column in CQ goes, Moseson says he is looking for a successor, perhaps not someone who writes in the same style as W5YI, but someone who can offer readers similar material.

Fred Maia, W5YI, died on March 28 after a bout with cancer. He was 76.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

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Fred Maia, W5YI, is survived by his wife, Doris, and two daughters. A memorial service was held on Saturday March 31st in Arlington, Texas. (ARNewsline(tm), CQ, WB6NOA, W2VU)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ARISS MENTOR INTRODUCTION AT DAYTON 2012

AMSAT and ARRL are teaming up during the 2012 Dayton Hamvention to recruit new Amateur Radio on the International Space Station or ARISS mentors. At 4 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time On May 18th and 19th the ARRL stage area will be used by AMSAT to explain the need for additional ARISS mentors. It will also outline the requirements and responsibilities needed to help provide a reliable conversation between astronauts and selected schools or groups. All amateurs attending Hamvention 2012 are invited to attend. (ARISS)

**

WORLDBEAT: RADIO NETHERLANDS TO DROP DUTCH SHORTWAVE LANGUAGE BROADCASTS IN MAY

Radio Netherlands is in the news again with word that the international broadcaster will terminate Dutch language transmissions world-wide on May 11th. And to say farewell to Dutch speaking listeners around the world the station plans to hold a 24-hour marathon broadcast from 2000 UTC on May 10th until 2000 UTC on May 11th. Frequencies and a listing of program content should be posted soon to the Radio Netherlands Dutch language website.

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: DX UNIVERSITY APRIL 20 - LAST CALL TO REGISTER

The annual 'DX University' will take place in Visalia, California, on Friday, April 20th. On the program are several of the world's most renowned DXers who will share their knowledge. You will also hear some vital tips on making DXCC and on achieving Honor Roll status.

So far over 120 hams have already reserved their place at this session. There are still a few seats left. Go to www.dxuniversity.com to register. (DX University)

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DX

In DX, PA7JWC and PD7DB operating stroke PJ2 will be on the air from Curacao through the 9th April. They will operate SSB, CW, RTTY and PSK on 80 through 10 meters. QSLs via Logbook of The World is preferred otherwise send paper QSL's to their home callsigns, either direct and via the bureau.

JA1XGI will be active as A35XG from Tonga through the 9th of April on 30, 17 and 12 metes using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL him also via his home callsign, direct or via the bureau.

ON4AEO and several other operators will be active as 3DA0FC from Swaziland from April 6th to the 10th. They plan to operate SSB, RTTY and PSK on 80 through 10 meters. QSL via ON4CJK, direct or via the bureau.

Lastly, GM6TW will be operating from the Inner Hebrides from April 7th to 13th. His main operating location will be the Isle of Jura, but he also- hopes to activate from Islay and Colonsay as well. No frequencies or modes were given. QSL via M0UTD.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: ELECTRONIC HERITAGE - SCHNECTADY MUSEUM GETS ALL GE VIDEO

And finally this week a story about the work of a museum doing all it can to preserve some of electronics past. Here's Jeff Clark, K8JAC:

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The Schenectady Museum is using the YouTube dot com website to rebroadcast more than 1,000 of its General Electric films, which date back to 1915. According to the museum curator Chris Hunter, the archive was previously available only on 16 millimeter film and was viewed infrequently because of its physical condition and the cumbersome process to watch the films using an optical projector.

Hunter said that the museum had long wanted to digitize the collection in order to preserve it but until recently it had been cost prohibitive to do so. Now, thanks to grants from the Institute for Museum and Library Services and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Life Members' Foundation, the museum was able to purchase a high-definition film transfer unit and hire and operator for it.

Among the film artifacts now existing in the digital domain are advertisements, raw footage of equipment tests, company picnics and promotional clips. Also transferred is the famed early television series titled the General Electric Theater. It was hosted by former President Ronald Reagan.

The museum hopes to finish uploading all of its film transferred videos to YouTube in the next year. It will then begin digitizing its 1,200 video tape based archives. A direct link to what has already been uploaded and available for viewing is at tinyurl.com/ge-on-youtube

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Again that U-R-L to screen all of those historic General Electric films is tinyurl.com/ge-on-youtube (Schnetady Daily Gazette, ARNewsline(tm))

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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99. FCC Daily Digest 04/10/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-10 15:58:16 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-520403-2012.04.10-11.12.38--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 418
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 69 April 10, 2
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[...]

Released: 04/09/2012. OCTOBER 2011 EDITION OF TITLE 47 OF THE CODE OF FE
DERAL REGULATIONS IS AVAILABLE. OMD . Contact: Sandy Daly at (202) 418-03
10 http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-313487A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-313487A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-313487A1.txt

[...]

100. Nebraska QSO Party (NQP) April 28-29.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-11 13:50:57 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120411125420.CFCE0207DA@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 419
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,oma.general,nebr.misc,rec.radio.info

Here is an announcement from Bill Jackson, K9RZ, President of the
Heartland DX Association:

The Heartland DX Association is pleased to announce that the 2012
edition of the Nebraska QSO Party will be held this year the weekend of
April 28-29. The contest begins at 1100Z (0600 CDT) on Saturday April
28 and runs through 1700Z (1200 CDT) on Sunday April 29. Official
Rules, Summary Sheet, Log Sheet and Nebraska Mobile Worksheet can be
downloaded in PDF format from the HDXA Web Site at
http://www.hdxa.net/neqso/. This is a great opportunity for Nebraska
hams to get on the air and activate some of the rarer counties in the
Country and publicize amateur radio in Nebraska.

73 and hope to see you in the contest.

Bill Jackson, K9RZ
President, HDXA

73, Art K0AIZ

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
---

101. The ARRL Letter for April 12, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-12 20:40:20 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120412201727.65F122096A@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 420
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**************************************

April 12, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- On the Air: Amateurs Must Protect New Radars in 23 cm Band
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+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: NORTH TEXAS HAMS RESPOND WHEN TORNADOS STRIKE
```

On April 3, 2012, perfect conditions conducive to tornado activity converged on North Texas. A slow moving front, combined with abnormally warm temperatures and moist air coming in from the south, produced large hail, numerous funnel clouds and tornados. As the weather worsened, hams in North Texas activated ARES® and RACES nets. Spotters reported their observations to their local Emergency Operations Center, which acted on that information in a timely manner to inform the public of the approaching storms, giving them time to get to safety. A total of 21 confirmed tornados -- including one EF3 and two EF2 twisters -- swept through the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex during the seven hour

storm.

According to ARRL North Texas Section Public Information Coordinator Jim Pope, N5JCP, the region suffered extensive damage, but thanks to the assistance of radio amateurs and trained weather spotters who tracked the storm's path and passed the information on to local officials who in turn passed the information to the public, there were no fatalities and very few injuries.

"In Rowlett -- a city of about 56,000 people in the northwest corner of Dallas County -- hams at the Rowlett Fire and Police dispatch unit received information on an approaching tornado from weather spotters," Pope told the ARRL. "Because of this advance warning, Rowlett officials activated the sirens, warning its citizens of the imminent storm nine minutes before the National Weather Service issued a tornado warning for the area." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/north-texas-hams-respond-when-tornados-strike>.

==> + ON THE AIR: 2012 CONTINUES TO SHOW GROWTH IN AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING

<http://www.arrl.org/images/view/News/New_FCC_Licenses_2006-March2012.jpg>
The first quarter of 2012 (January-March) saw a high level of Amateur Radio license exam sessions, producing an elevated influx of applications for new licensees. According to ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, these numbers outpaced the 2011 first quarter results by 30 percent. This uptick does not only apply to new applications; there was a 6 percent increase in the number of upgrades, too. "Statistics over the last 13 years reveal that these are some of the highest numbers that we've seen since the early 1990s for the total number of US amateurs," Somma said. "Now there are more than 704,000 radio amateurs in the US." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/2012-continues-to-show-growth-in-amateur-radio-licensing>.

==> + ON THE AIR: FCC SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BY AMATEUR RADIO AND IMPEDIMENTS TO AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

In response to the Congressional directive to prepare a study to assess Amateur Radio's role in emergency and disaster communications and the impact of private land use regulations on the amateur community's ability to provide such communications, the FCC issued DA 12-523 soliciting comments from the public. The period for public comment runs until May 17, 2012.

"As part of the study contained in Public Law No. 112-96, the Commission has opened a 45 day period for comments to be filed on the issue," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Because of the short deadline for the study to be completed and presented to Congress -- before the end of August -- the ARRL and the amateur community must quickly mobilize their response." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-public-comments-on-emergency-communicatio

ns-by-amateur-radio-and-impediments-to-amateur-ra>.

==> + DIGITAL QST: COMING SOON TO A COMPUTER NEAR YOU!

The new digital edition of QST will debut toward the end of May. If you are an ARRL member and you haven't yet signed up to be notified automatically when the digital edition becomes available, you can do so easily. Just click on the "Edit your profile" link on the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/>. Once you are in your profile, click "Edit e-mail subscriptions" and then check the box next to "Notification of monthly digital edition of QST." That's all there is to it. A new FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq> about the digital edition has the answers to the questions ARRL members have been asking (it can also be accessed from the QST page on the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/qst>). We hope you enjoy the new digital edition of QST.

==> ON THE AIR: AMATEURS MUST PROTECT NEW RADARS IN 23 CM BAND

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA <http://www.faa.gov/>) is deploying a new generation of Common Air Route Surveillance Radar (CARSR) that has some implications for the use of the 1240-1300 MHz (23 cm) band by amateurs. The Amateur Service allocation in this band is on a secondary basis, with aeronautical radionavigation and several other services primary in the United States Table of Frequency Allocations. The FCC rules require that amateur stations operating in the 23 cm band may not cause harmful interference to stations in the radionavigation-satellite service, the aeronautical radionavigation service, the Earth exploration-satellite service (active) or the space research service (active). One case of harmful interference in Southern California has been reported.

CARSRs are being installed in several dozen locations throughout the country and will use various frequencies in the 1240-1350 MHz range with an occupied bandwidth of about 3 MHz. In the vicinity of the radars, amateur operation may be precluded in a portion of the 23 cm band. The ARRL is in contact with FAA engineers. We anticipate that the constraints on amateur use of the band will be limited to those necessary to protect aviation safety, which of course cannot be compromised.

==> ON THE AIR: ARRL SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 33 CM BAND PLAN

A few months ago, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee asked the Amateur Radio community about current, planned and projected uses of the amateur bands between 902 MHz-3.5 GHz. The response was beyond our expectations, with hundreds of comments and suggestions received. After reading the feedback, the Committee began working on the band plans, and the draft plan for 33 cm (902-928 MHz) is now ready for review. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-comments-on-proposed-33-cm-band-plan>.

==> + IARU NEWS: APRIL 18 IS WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY

The year 2012 marks the 87th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). To mark this occasion, the IARU and its more than 160 Member-Societies will celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on April 18. For many years, the IARU has declared a theme for each World Amateur Radio Day. The theme for 2012 is Amateur Radio Satellites: Celebrating 50 Years in Space in remembrance of the launch of OSCAR 1 on December 12, 1961 and the launch of OSCAR 2 on June 2, 1962. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/april-18-is-world-amateur-radio-day>.

==> + CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR THE MAY ISSUE OF QST

This May issue of QST focuses on digital operating. From RTTY to PACTOR III to PSK31 to D-STAR to JT65, there's a digital mode to satisfy just about every ham appetite. And with new privileges on 60 meters, there's a whole new band for digital operators to explore. So set aside a couple of hours, grab a snack and get ready to explore the May issue of QST.

A recurring gag on the late-1960's comedy Get Smart involved telephones. Not only did Maxwell Smart (Agent 86) have a shoe phone, phones on the show were hidden in more than 50 everyday objects, including a necktie, comb, watch, clock, handkerchief, magazine and a garden hose. You, too, can "get smart" when you turn your Android smart phone into a digital communications terminal. Find out how in "An AFSK Interface for Android Smartphones" by Martin Huyett, K0BXB.

If you've ever wanted to try D-STAR, but you don't have access to a D-STAR radio, you won't want to miss "From Analog to D-STAR" by Gary Pearce, KN4AQ. In his article, Pearce explores how D-STAR works, how to program a D-STAR radio and even how to get on the air with D-STAR using your existing equipment. QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, is a digital radio guru. His article "Who's on JT65?" takes a look at this mode developed by Nobel Prize laureate Joe Taylor, K1JT, and explores its strong growth as a digital mode on the HF bands.

The 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference ended two months ago, and delegates are now working on implementing the decisions in their home countries while preparing for the next WRC, scheduled for 2015. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, attended WRC-12 as a member of the IARU delegation. In his article ""WRC-12 Results in New Amateur MF Allocation," Sumner takes a look at how more than 3000 participants from 165 countries reached consensus on 30 different issues related to the allocation and sharing of the radio spectrum -- including Amateur Radio -- and the efficient use of satellite orbits for telecommunications and scientific research.

QST Contributing Editor Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, takes a look at the Kenwood TM-281A 2 meter FM transceiver in this month's Product Review. He says the rig is a "solidly built, good performing 2 meter FM mobile with a nice selection of features for the price." QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, checked out the Tokyo Hy-Power Labs HL350VDX 2 meter linear amplifier, calling it "a very flexible and compact 2 meter

medium power amplifier that can follow many types of equipment. It is easy to set up and run and operates in all modes very well. It is truly a linear amplifier such that it produces SSB intermodulation products that would be appropriate for an HF linear." W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, looked at the Network Sciences/AC0C roofing filter for the Yaesu FT-2000. "This filter made a noticeable improvement in W1AW's FT-2000 transceiver's close-in strong signal handling performance," he said. "Installation requires the proper tools and a steady hand."

Of course, there are the usual columns you know and expect in the May QST: Happenings, Hints & Kinks, The Doctor Is In, Short Takes, Technical Correspondence, How's DX and more. Look for your May issue in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: MALAYSIA TO HOST EIGHTH GLOBAL AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

The Eighth Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC) -- called MyGAREC 2012 <http://www.mygarec2012.com/garec/> -- will be held November 12-14 in the Malaysian state of Negeri Sembilan at the Thistle Port Dickson Resort <http://www.thistle.com/en/hotels/malaysia/port_dickson/thistle_port_dickson> .

GAREC began in 2005 in Tampere, Finland. The conference attracts radio amateurs who have an interest in providing emergency communications in response to disasters or during training exercises. MyGAREC 2012 has been timed to immediately follow the IARU Region 3 Conference in Vietnam (scheduled for November 5-9) with its theme of disaster relief communications.

General information for MyGAREC 2012 -- including information on the venue, registration fees, the tentative agenda <http://www.mygarec2012.com/garec/index.php/info-mygarec-2012/mygarec-2012-schedule> and registration forms -- has been posted on the MyGAREC website. According to organizers, the website will be updated weekly with the latest news and program changes. Among the topics to be discussed include the HF emergency operating procedure and the future of GAREC, as well as presentations from the three IARU regions. Presentations from various IARU Member-Societies regarding recent disaster relief communications operations will also be scheduled.

Previous GARECs have been held in Finland (2005 and 2006), the USA (2007), Germany (2008), Japan (2009), Cura&#xfffd;ao (2010) and South Africa (2011).

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "How do you rate the morning Sun?
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9SkXA19g0OY>" Cook, K7RA, reports:
Solar activity took a serious nosedive this week, with the average
daily sunspot numbers dropping to a value less than half the previous
week's average -- down nearly 43 points to 32.6. The solar flux values
were also off, down nearly 12 points to 95.9. The current prediction
shows solar flux at 90 on April 12-18, then suddenly jumping to 105 on
April 19-21, 110 on April 22-25, then back to 105 on April 26-28, 100
on April 29-30, and then 95 on May 1-9. The predicted planetary A index
is an unsettled 12 on April 12-14, 10 and 8 on April 15-16, 5 on April
17-23, 10 and 8 on April 24-25, 5 on April 26-29, 8 on April 30, and 5
on May 1-7. One good way to view the decline since last fall is with a
solar plotting utility by Scott Craig, WA4TTK, which can be downloaded
free <http://www.craigcentral.com/sol.asp>. He currently has an updated
data file that goes through April 4, 2012. Look for more information on
the ARRL website on Friday, April 13. For more information concerning
radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service
Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This
week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Robbie Williams' Morning Sun
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morning_Sun_%28song%29>.

==> FCC ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS FOR JANUARY-MARCH 2012

Here's a summary of FCC enforcement actions during the past quarter
(January-March 2012): Repeater-related cases: 1. General infractions
(including unauthorized operation): 10. Power-line cases: 0. Click here
<http://transition.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html> for details.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- April 13 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- April 14 -- EU Spring Sprint (CW)
- April 14-15 -- Georgia QSO Party; Montana QSO Party; New Mexico QSO
Party; QCWA Spring QSO Party; JIDX CW Contest; Yuri Gagarin
International DX Contest
- April 15 -- ARRL Rookie Roundup (SSB)
<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>; International Vintage Contest HF
Contest; Hungarian Straight Key Contest
- April 17 -- 222 MHz Spring Sprint (local time)

Next week:

- April 20-21 -- Holyland DX Contest
- April 21 -- Feld Hell Sprint; EU Spring Sprint (SSB); TARA Skirmish
Digital Prefix Contest; ES Open HF Championship
- April 21-22 -- Michigan QSO Party; South Dakota QSO Party; Ontario
QSO Party; CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest; EA-QRP CW Contest; YU DX
Contest
- April 25 -- 432 MHz Spring Sprint (local time)
- April 25-26 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- April 14 -- ARRL Delta Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delta-division-convention-3>, Bartlett, Tennessee
- April 14-15 -- Communications Academy 2012 <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2012>, Seattle, Washington
- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho; 63rd International DX Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>, Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radio-electronics-expo-1>, Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe, Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>, Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>, Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>, Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers, Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville, Tennessee

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
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ons>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
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newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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102. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1809 - April 13 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-13 09:00:22 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120413090003.0704233C98@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 421
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1809 - April 13 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1809 with a release date of April 13th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QSTT. Carole Perry, WB2MGP, celebrates a quarter of a century leading educators and youth forums at the Dayton Hamvention, an FCC enforcement in California action may not be what it seems, entry level hams in Belgium to get a power increase on the High Frequency bands and a United States broadcaster pays homage to its oldest and longest listener. Find out who she is on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1809 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO CELEBRATION: CAROLE PERRY, WB2MGP TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF SERVING YOUTH AT HAMVENTION 2012

A true milestone for educator Carole Perry, WB2MGP. This as she celebrates her 25th consecutive year moderating both the Youth Forum and Instructors' Forum at the Dayton Hamvention. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has the rest of the story:

--

It all started back in 1987. That's when Carole Perry, WB2MGP, was at the Dayton Hamvention to accept the Radio Amateur of the Year Award. Hamvention planners offered her the opportunity to moderate a forum on "Using Ham Radio in the Classroom." And as Carole tells us, it all grew from there:

--

WB2MGP: "Its impossible for me to speak about anything with amateur radio without talking about the fun and the educational validity of including it as a part of a school program.

"And so we did a forum and then we thought it would be a good idea to teach other people who were interested and who were ham radio operators to include it in the curriculum at their schools or to start it as a club, or if they were lucky enough to do it the way I did it where it became part of the schools regular course and curriculum."

--

Prior to WB2MGP bringing ham radio into the classroom and educating teachers on how to work with the hobby, there was little in the way of direction or leadership for young hams. In only a few short years, WB2MGP managed to make the concept of youth in amateur radio a modern day cornerstone in the hobby. This she says is all thanks to the support that emerged over the past quarter century that has as its core the two yearly forums at Hamvention:

--

WB2MGP: "It (Ed. youth in amateur radio) really started taking on a life of its own where people got ideas and the sharing of ideas among other educators and people who ran youth groups to incorporate this and expose young people to it.

"As you know, we've had them as young as 8 years old coming in and just blowing the audience away with their stories of participation in amateur radio."

--

2012 is that quarter century point and according to WB2MGP, she intends to mark the occasion in a very special way. And she has a very special invitation for each of you:

--

WB2MGP: "If you have never been to the Youth Forum or the Instructors Forum please make it a point to stop by. And I guarantee that if you sit there long enough you are going to be smiling. And knowing who I have speaking this time and this year, it``s going to be really fabulous."

--

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK in Zion, Illinois.

--

Carole Perry's Instructors Forum takes place on Friday, May 18th from 10:30 to 12 noon and her Youth in Amateur Radio Forum is on Saturday May 19th from 9:15 a.m to 12:15 p.m. -both Eastern Daylight Time. Even if you can't stay for an entire session please take a moment to drop by and congratulate Carole Perry, WB2MGP, on this quarter century milestone in service to ham radio and her opening the new world of amateur radio to those who will be its next generation and many generations to follow. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC ISSUES NOTICE OF VIOLATION TO ATV REPEATER OPERATOR

The FCC has issued a Notice of Violation to a California ham for interfering with FAA radiolocation operations. It also claims he was broadcasting television signals in the 23 centimeter band. But it now

appears as if these charges are not what the regulatory agency might want us to believe. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with more:

--

Gary Dent, AF6HP, has operated 1 point 2 GHz fast scan amateur television repeaters and beacons for about the past 10 years. One of these was located at the Sunset Ridge radio site 40 miles North East of the city of Los Angeles, California.

Dent tells Newsline that in February he received a phone call from a person identifying himself as an agent of the FCC's Cerritos California office. The agent told Dent that his AF6HP system on Sunset Ridge was interfering with some newly installed radar system. Dent tells Newsline that he immediately functioned the system off the air and told the agent he would remove the hardware from the hill as soon as road access made it accessible.

According to Dent a few weeks later he received another call from the same agent informing him that he was again transmitting from the Sunset Ridge location and was to cease these transmissions immediately.

Dent says that he can only assume that one of the power failures that took place during a severe weather outbreak reset the controller putting the system back on the air in beacon mode. Beacon operation is legal under Section 97.203 of the Amateur Part 97 Rules.

Wanting to comply with the FCC's request he immediately verified the situation; again remotely turned off the system and has since removed the gear from the site.

Case closed you would assume? Well if you do you are wrong.

On March 30th the FCC's District Director of the Los Angeles Office Western Region Enforcement Bureau issued a two prong Notice of Violation to AF6HP. It charges that on February 29, March 2nd, and March 22nd that, in response to an interference complaint from Federal Aviation Administration, an agent of the Enforcement Bureau's Los Angeles Office used direction finding and other investigative techniques to identify transmissions in the 23 cm band. He found them coming from Station AF6HP.

The Notice of Violation says that the agent observed violations of 97.303(b) which is the interference issue. He also charged Dent with broadcasting under Section 97.113(b). The latter is curious in that AF6HP says that when the system came back on that it was in its default beacon mode. As already noted, beacon operation is legally authorized under FCC Rule 97.203(b). However Section F of the same rule states that a beacon must cease transmissions upon notification by a District Director that the station is operating improperly or causing undue interference to other operations. The beacon may not resume transmitting without prior approval of the District Director. But

nowhere in Section 97.203 is the term broadcasting applied to beacon operation.

Where this matter goes in relation to AF6HP is now up to the FCC. The offending equipment was removed and Dent tells Newsline that it will eventually be re-installed at another site that hopefully will not interfere with FAA or any other radio systems serving the Los Angeles or Riverside areas.

For the Amateur radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

We will definitely keep you posted on this one. (FCC, ARNewsline(tm))

**

RESTRUCTURING: BELGIUM ENTRY LEVEL HAMS MAY GET POWER INCREASE

The UBA which is Belgium's national society reports on plans to allow Belgian Foundation license holders to run 50 watts on the High Frequency bands instead of the cureent 10 watts.

Belgian Foundation holders are currently permitted 50 watts only on 144 and 430 MHz. On bands between 3.5 to 52 MHz the limit is currently 10. The new proposal means these entries level hams would be able to run 50 watts on the H-F and 6 meters as well. The U-B-A says via its website that taking into account the so called 3 dB rule this would permit the use of a standard 100 Watt transceiver.

The full proposal in electronically translated English is on line at tinyurl.com/Belgium50wFoundation. (UBA)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the KJ0A repeater serving Maryland Heights Missouri.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: NO JAIL TIME FOR FLORIDA UNLICENSED STATION

The former operator of a Florida-based unlicensed radio station has been spared doing time in whats often called the Grey Bar Hotel. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Damron, N8TMW, reports:

--

The operator of an unlicensed radio station in the town of Dunbar in Lee County, Florida has agreed to perform 20 hours of community service

in lieu of jail time.

Florida has what it calls an anti pirate radio law and under it Al Knighten had faced up to five years of jail time. However media reports say that the State Attorney charged with prosecuting the case changed course and decided to drop the radio piracy charges.

Knighten had previously admitted that he had operated "Dunbar Community Radio" illegally out of his Fort Myers home. The FCC accompanied by local police raided Knighten's home last December and took the station off the air.

Earlier on Knighten told the local press that the licensing process had been too expensive. But in a more recent interview Knighten now says that he and his associates will try to license the station legally now that they have more monetary support.

>From Charleston, West Virginia, I'm Jim Damron, N8tMW, reporting.

--

Knighten's obtaining a license for his station might not be as easy as it sounds. This is because the FCC has a policy in place not granting station licenses to anyone who previously ran an unlicensed radio transmitter for broadcast purposes. (RBI)

**

RADIO LAW: TWO SENATORS ASK FCC TO SAVE LIGHTSQUARED

The story that never seems to want to die just took a step toward the weirder. This with word that two well known United States senators are asking the FCC to save Lightsquared from oblivion by moving the proposed broadband network to alternative spectrum in an effort to save the troubled company from going under..

As previously reported, LightSquared has invested billions of dollars in plans for a nationwide 4G network in spectrum directly adjacent to that used by the Global Positioning System or G-P-S. But in February the FCC moved to block the network over concerns that it would interfere with G-P-S devices.

Now in a letter obtained by the on-line blog The Hill, Democratic senator John Kerry and Republican senator Lindsey Graham have stated their view to FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski that they understand his agency's decision to prevent LightSquared from interfering with GPS devices. But the senators said that instead of putting the company out of business, the FCC should allocate a different block wireless spectrum to LightSquared.

The two senators did not suggest which block of spectrum the government should set aside for LightSquared to use. The company had previously stated that its needs can only be fulfilled in bandspace in or close to where its infrastructure is right now. (Various news reports)

**

RESCUE RADIO: NEW MARS STATION TO BE INSTALLED IN CUMBERLAND FALLS KY

A new Military Auxiliary Radio System or MARS radio system designed to help emergency communications is to be installed in Kentucky's Cumberland Falls State Park.

News reports say that the repeater station will be placed atop the park's water tower, to assure a good signal links to the state Emergency Management headquarters in Frankfort. However, on-site testing by local radio amateurs showed that the proposed repeater could likely receive the signal as far south as Knoxville, Tennessee.

In addition to MARS communications Park official Pam Gibson says the repeater can also be used for weather spotting and to alert the park in the event of emergencies. Gibson noted that the new system will be equipped with an emergency power source to keep it in operation in case of failure of the normal power mains.

The system should be in operation by this summer. No band or callsign was given in the news press release. Nor was there any explanation of the sharing agreement by MARS and the rest of the ham radio emergency communications community. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/mars-park-repeater (eHam.net, other reports)

**

RADIO LOCATION: UNITED STATES TV COVERAGE MAPPING FROM NPR LABS

National Public Radio Labs has introduced its new interactive online mapping system that they say can accurately predict digital versus analog service coverage for both radio and television transmissions. NPR says that this software should help engineers and managers of approximately 3,000 public radio and television broadcast stations and translators to get a better idea as to how their predicted analog and digital coverage on automotive, mobile handheld and indoor receivers. The online system is available for viewing at secure.nprlabs.org/radiotvmapping. (NPR)

**

RADIO RULES: NZART CHANGES ITS REPEATER LICENSE FEE METHODS

A decision from the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters will have an impact on several of its branches. Those where repeater and beacon licenses currently held in the name of NZART will be handed back to them.

The current system of invoicing and renewals means a heavy administrative workload for society's resources at a time when subscription renewals are also being processed. This will mean that this coming November when the individual licenses are up for renewal, each branch will receive the license renewal invoice direct from the government telecommunications regulatory authority. This in turn means

that branch secretaries will need to be aware of this and ensure that payment is made by the date due. Failure to do so may result in the license being cancelled.

Unlike the United States where individual hams own and hold license to repeaters, in many nations it is the national society that is the repeater and beacon licensee. Those hams involved merely build and maintain repeaters. In fact, in some nations these hams are known as repeater keepers rather than as owner operators of such devices. (NZART, ARNewsline)

**

HAMVENTION 2012: FORUMS LIST POSTED

If you have been waiting to find out who will be holding forums at this years Dayton Hamvention, the wait is over. A complete list of this years sessions along with the day, time and room that each will be held in is now available at hamvention.org/forums.php. It again appears to be a loaded schedule so if you will be headed to Hamvention this May be sure to check this list out well in advance. (KE4WLE)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: 6 YEAR OLD BELIEVED TO BE YOUNGEST EVER UK HAM

Some names in the news. First up is Kayleigh Huntley, who at age 6 is believed to be the youngest person ever to hold a United Kingdom amateur radio license.

According to the Humber Fortress DX Amateur Radio, Kayleigh passed her Foundation exam at age 5 years and eleven months. The news release from the Humber Fortress club did not however mention Kayleigh's callsign.

Kayleigh Huntley is the granddaughter of Andy Neilsen G7LRR who is credited with introducing her to the magic world off amateur radio some three years ago. (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE2NHK NAMED NEW QUEBEC SEC

Radio Amateurs of Canada has announced that Normand Pitre VE2NHK has been named the new Section Emergency Coordinator for the Quebec Section effective immediately. Pitre recently earned his Radio Amateurs of Canada Certified Emergency Coordinator designation, and resides in the city of Saint Zotique. (RAC, VA2SGL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NEW 50 MHz EME DIGITAL SARL DX RECORD

Derek Gravette, ZS5Y, in Scottburgh, South Africa and established a new 50 MHz South Africa Radio League Earth-Moon-Earth record. This, by making contact with Mike Staal, K6MYC, in northern California here in

the United States.

On April 4th, the two completed a QSO on E-M-E using the JT65a digital mode. JT65 was developed by Joe Taylor, K1JT and released in late 2003. It is intended for extremely weak but slowly-varying signals, such as those found on tropo-scatter or of coarse E-M-E paths. (SARL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: N0BYH GIVEN AWARD FOR AIDING HAM RADIO SCOUTING

Here in the United States, Tim Arimond, N0BYH, has awarded the Boy Scouts' District Award of Merit. This for his work in promoting amateur radio with the Boy Scouts in the Minneapolis and St Paul area.

The award recognizes Airmond's extraordinary service to youth that has included instruction to help prepare scouts to take the amateur radio exam as well as his service as a merit badge councilor for Electricity, Electronics, and Radio. It was also noted that he was also one of the adult leaders behind the local K0BSA. (KD0NYS)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: FRENCH PREPARE FOR DIGITAL RADIO LAUNCH

Radio in France is going all digital. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

The French audiovisual regulatory authority known as the CSA has announced that it will launch terrestrial digital radio or DAB this year. It will also deliver authorization to the stations that were pre-selected in 2008.

The French CSA had issued a call in 2008 for stations that would like to be on the leading edge of the analog to digital conversion. It then chord 55 radio stations in Paris and Marseille, as well as around 40 in Nice, but the process then stalled. At that time the CSA said that its goal is to reach 50 percent of the French population based on a 2007 law on the modernization of audiovisual broadcasting. But over the years the launch of digital radio in that nation has been constantly postponed due to opposition from larger private broadcasters who complained that the distribution costs were too high.

Now, the CSA is pulling the plug on lobbying from the broadcast giants and proceeding with the conversion process. At the same time, the CSA would like France to adopt the DAB+ broadcast platform as currently used in Germany, saying it would complement the selected but more expensive T-DMB standard to replace analog radio.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, in Berwyck, Pennsylvania.

--

There is one downside to France's digital radio switchover. As happened when that nation made the switch to digital television last November, the analog to digital radio change will again mean that French households will be forced to replace all of their in-home and portable radio receivers. (Media Network)

**

WORLDBEAT: SWEDEN SDR HAM-BAND RECEIVER ON THE WEB

A new online Software Defined Radio located in Sweden and set for reception of the amateur radio 75, 60, 40 and 20 meter bands is now available via the World Wide Web. Located in the city of Mora and is maintained by SM4JLX, the system is made up of three Soft66lite receivers and a band-pass filter. You need both Java and JavaScript enabled for the WebSDR to work properly. You can hear it on-line at tinyurl.com/sweden-sdr. (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT: NEW IRISH BROADCASTING CHARGE MAY REPLACE TV LICENSE

Changes appear to be coming to the way televiewers in Ireland get charged for watching T.V. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Clark, K8JAC, has the details:

--

Ireland's Minister for Communications has confirmed that he is considering a new household broadcasting charge to replace the television licensee fee. Pat Rabbitte told the Dail newspaper that this would not be an additional charge, and would not affect anyone who was already paying their television license.

Rabbitte agreed that the current funding model was not sustainable in the long run. This was partly because of technological change which meant fewer people were watching on traditional television sets, and partly because of evasion.

Minister Rabbitte said a working group in his department had concluded that a household broadcasting charge "is a viable model", and those discussions had taken place with the Department of the Environment about accessing a database of households. He said it was mainly younger people who were using devices other than traditional television

receivers to access programming.

I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC.

--

Just how long it might be before Irelands televiewing public sees this change in the way fees are collected is at this time, unknown. (Media Network)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ISS CONTACT TO HISTORIC FLABOB AIRPORT

A group of students are preparing to talk to an astronaut aboard the International Space Station, but not from a traditional classroom setting. According to ARISS Technical Support Volunteer Clint Bradford, K6LCS, the 10 minute live question-and-answer session will take place in hangar 16A at the historic Flabob Airport which is the seventh oldest surviving airport in California.

The Flabob Airport to the I-S-S contact opportunity is being coordinated by The Tom Wathen Center's Kathy Rohm with technical support provided by K6LCS. The contact is slated to begin at at 10:03 AM Pacific Daylight time on the morning of April 19th and should last for about the usual 10 minutes.

More is on-line at www.iss-flabob.com (ARISS, K6LCS)

**

RADIO AND SPACE: HAM ASTRONOMER NEEDED DOWN UNDER

According to APRS pioneer Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, there is need for a Amateur Astronomer who is also a radio amateur in Canberra Australian on June 4th to the 6th. His or her assistance is needed to support a science team of students from the United States to observe the last transit of Venus this century. The Australian ham will essentially provide real-time communications to a second team in Japan to share observations of this historic event. Interested individuals for this historic event, contact WB4APR (at) amsat (dot) org.

(Southgate)

**

DX

In DX, EA3OW is now active through May 12th stroke HH8 from Southern Haiti. His operation is limited to only his free time. When he is on listen out for him on 40 through 10 meters using SSB, RTTY and digital modes. QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau or direct.

OM3CGN is now active from the Cameroon as TJ6RM until mid-April. His operation is on 40 through 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via OM3CGN.

Members of the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society and the 9M4SDX Team will be active 9M0L from Sabah, East Malaysia through April 24th. QSL direct to 9M2TO: 9M0L TEAM PENANG, PO BOX 125 GPO 10710, Penang Island, Malaysia or via the bureau to Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitters Society

DJ9RR will be on the air as S79RR from Mahe Island between May 15th and the 23rd. Activity will be holiday style on 40 through 10 meters using CW and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign, direct, via the bureau or using Logbook of the World.

Members of the Jersey Contest Group will be active as GJ2A from the Isle of Jersey during the Radio Society of Great Britaians' Islands on the Air Contest. This event taking place on July 28th and 29th. QSL direct to GJ3DVC or electronically using Logbook of the World.

G3ZAY and M0VFC are planning to be active as ZD9UW from Tristan da Cunha possibly in September but nothing yet is confirmed. More details should soon be forthcoming at www.zd9uw.org.uk.

ON4LO will be active as 5P4LO from Romo Island between April 15th and the 20th. His operation will be on 10 to 80 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via ON4LO, direct or via the bureau.

Lastly, JH4VUC will once again be operational from Saipan using the callsign WH0VU through April 21st. Activity will be on all H-F bands using all modes. QSL direct to his home callsign.

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: KDKA HONORS ITS LONGEST LISTENER

And finally this week, a famed radio station has honored its lifelong listener. Representatives from Pittsburgh's KDKA broadcasting did so when they recently visited 106 year old Lucy Treccase.

Created by the Westinghouse Electric Corporation KDKA AM is often called the first commercial station in the United States. Treccase claims that she remembers hearing KDKA's inaugural broadcast of the presidential election results on November 2nd, 1920 between Warren Harding and James Cox.

At the gathering Ms. Trecasse was interviewed by KDKA radio's Larry Richert and KDKA-TV's Dennis Bowman. Richert and Bowman also presented her with a specially engraved plaque. It reads to: "Lucy Treccase -In Honor of Decades of Listenership; November 2, 1920 to the present."

More on this rather heart-warming story is on-line at tinyurl.com/kdka-oldest-listener. And you have to admit that this is a nice way to end this weeks newscast.

(RW)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, TWIT.TV, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

Also, please do not forget that Wednesday, April 18th is World Amateur Radio Day 2012. That's when the world of amateur radio will celebrate the 87th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union. The theme this year is Amateur Radio Satellites: Celebrating 50 Years in Space. Specifically noted are the launch of ham radios first satellite, OSCAR 1 on December 12, 1961 and the launch of OSCAR 2 on June 2, 1962.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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103. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-15 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1334469601@panix.com>
Source record: 422
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
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Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

104. World Amateur Radio Day -- April 18

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-16 13:50:54 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120416123825.BFAF6203AC@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 423
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

Here is a note from Allen Pits, W1AGP, Meida and PR Manager for the ARRL.

Newington, CT, USA. -- There are over 700,000 “ham radio” licensees in the USA and about 2 ½ million worldwide. This international community of wireless communications devotees will celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on April 18th as they recall the advances their Amateur Radio Service has made for modern man. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) and its member societies representing more than 160 countries around the world celebrate World Amateur Radio Day each year on April 18, the anniversary of the founding of the IARU. This is the 87th anniversary of the foundation.

Their theme for 2012 is Amateur Radio Satellites: Celebrating 50 Years in Space in remembrance of the launch of the first Amateur Radio satellites OSCAR 1 on December 12, 1961 and the launch of OSCAR 2 on June 2, 1962. Since then, radio amateurs have had several more satellites as they find new ways to communicate world wide without relying on commercial systems. Their ranks have included people like "Steve" Wozniak and John Sculley of Apple, Dr. Karl William Edmark who invented the heart defibrillator, Scott Durchslag, the Chief Operating Officer at Skype, and Dr. John Grunsfeld of NASA and the Hubble Space Telescope.

Today’s hams continue to explore new frontiers. Radio amateurs are finding ways to use frequencies at the fringes of the radio spectrum while developing marriages of radio and the internet and experimenting with new forms of digital communications. Ham radio operators are “amateurs” only because they are unpaid volunteers, but their skills and contributions to the world are of the highest order.

For more information, please see www.IARU.org

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
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105. May 2012 Digital QST Test Preview...

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-19 03:48:23 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120418215535.E9B94249C7@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 424
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

* Beta Test - *You have been selected to receive this test preview of May Digital /QST/ to prepare for the member launch next month. If you experience any difficulties, please contact circulation@arrl.org. Enjoy the new Digital Edition.

* May 2012
Digital Edition - *Go Now>
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201205/>

Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201205/>

Digital QST

Dear ARRL Member,May Digital QST
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201205/>

In addition to the print edition of /QST/, all ARRL members have access to the convenient, new digital edition of /QST/ at no additional cost. The current edition of /QST/ is available now: May 2012 /QST/
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201205/>

**

Special Digital Communications Edition...

* /QST/ reviews: the Kenwood TM-281A 2 meter transceiver, the Tokyo Hy-Power Labs HL-350VDX 2 meter linear amplifier and the Network Sciences/ACï¿½C roofing filter for the Yaesu FT-2000
* Your smartphone can be a digital communications terminal
* HF digital messaging made easy
* Buoys in the classroom

Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201205/>
Digital-Only Features...

* Video walkthroughs of two items featured in Product Review: the Kenwood TM-281A transceiver and the Tokyo Hy-Power Labs HL350VDX linear amp
* Behind-the-scenes commentary on the recent successful WRC-12
* Audio link: What does JT65 sound like?

**Every issue of /QST/ is filled with the news and features you need to keep active in Amateur Radio. After you read through it, find us on Faceb <http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org>ook
<http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org> and tell us what you enjoyed!

73,

Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Editor

What is a digital edition?
The digital edition of /QST/ is a web-based edition of the journal...a way to read and interact with the current issue of /QST/ anytime, anywhere. It simulates the look and feel of our printed version, complete with page flipping, indexing and easy ways to move around to get to the content you want. You can choose to read it online, or download the entire issue to your laptop. Each issue includes unique, digital-edition-only content such as video, audio features and extra content. Members can also access the digital archive for access to previous issues.
*
How do I access the digital edition?*
Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access this benefit. You can always find a link to the current digital edition and archives at www.arrl.org/new-qst <http://www.arrl.org/new-qst>.

To login or register, go to www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

Forgot password? Go to www.arrl.org/forgot-password <http://www.arrl.org/forgot-password> to reset your password.

Not a member? Join today <http://www.arrl.org/join/QDF> and get access to the current digital edition, now.

Need help? Visit the digital edition help page <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq> for frequently asked questions. Need more help? Contact Member Services by telephone 860-594-0200 or 888-277-5289 (US only) or email circulation@arrl.org <mailto:circulation@arrl.org>.

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You can choose to opt-out* of the mailed, print edition of /QST/ at any time. Complete our online opt-out form <http://www.arrl.org/QST-print-edition-opt-out-form>. Due to the lead time required to prepare /QST/ for mailing, you may receive one last printed issue.
* Disclaimer: Choosing to opt-out of the print edition of /QST/ is voluntary and will not result in a refund or reduction of ARRL membership dues. Any savings will be used to extend the ARRL's reach in the areas of public service, education, advocacy, technology and membership.

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Digital QST

ARRL logo
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225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-144 USA
www.arrl.org <http://www.arrl.org>

106. The ARRL Letter for April 19, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-20 05:56:50 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120419223210.5343C2DBCA3@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 425
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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April 19, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + Dayton Hamvention: Get Ready for ARRL EXPO at the Dayton Hamvention

- + Public Service: Iowa Hams Help Local and NWS Officials Before,
After Tornado
- + On the Air: Amateurs Must Protect New Radars in 23 cm Band
- + On the Air: Changes Permit More Field Checking of DXCC Cards
- + Field Day: Register Your ARRL Field Day Site on the Field Day
Locator
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Teachers Institute and ETP Grant Applications Due Soon
- + Digital QST: Coming Soon to a Computer Near You!
- Minutes from March's ARRL Executive Committee Meeting Now Available
- International News: ITU Telecom World 2012 Conference Seeking
Participants for Young Innovators Program
- Solar Update
- + ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference Set for Atlanta
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + DAYTON HAMVENTION: GET READY FOR ARRL EXPO AT THE DAYTON
HAMVENTION

The ARRL has finalized its planning to bring its large exhibition --
ARRL EXPO -- to Dayton Hamvention, May 18-20. The ARRL EXPO has been a
mainstay at Hamvention since 2005, serving as the centerpiece for most
of the League's activities at the country's largest Amateur Radio
convention. "Our goal is help represent the fullness of the ARRL
membership programs and services at the convention," said ARRL
Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "ARRL EXPO is as much about
creating an experience for convention goers as it is about having a
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place for members to interact with other members. The ARRL EXPO team includes more than 100 ARRL volunteers, officials and staff members. If you are an active Amateur Radio operator or want to renew your interest in ham radio, the ARRL EXPO is the place to be at Dayton." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/get-ready-for-the-2012-arrl-expo-at-the-dayton-hamvention>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: IOWA HAMS HELP LOCAL AND NWS OFFICIALS BEFORE, AFTER TORNADO

<http://www.arrl.org/images/view/News/CrestonTornado.jpg> On April 14, a string of tornados swept through the Central US and Great Lakes Region, including an EF2 tornado in Creston, Iowa, causing severe damage to the Greater Regional Medical Center and the Southwestern Community College campus. Prior to the tornado, radio amateurs in Creston reported storm observations directly to the National Weather Service. After the storm forced the evacuation of the hospital, hams provided communications support to local officials. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/iowa-hams-support-local-officials-before-after-tornado>.

==> + ON THE AIR: AMATEURS MUST PROTECT NEW RADARS IN 23 CM BAND

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA <http://www.faa.gov/>) is deploying a new generation of Common Air Route Surveillance Radar (CARSR) that has some implications for the use of the 1240-1300 MHz (23 cm) band by amateurs. The Amateur Service allocation in this band is on a secondary basis, with aeronautical radionavigation and several other services primary in the United States Table of Frequency Allocations. The FCC rules require that amateur stations operating in the 23 cm band may not cause harmful interference to stations in the radionavigation-satellite service, the aeronautical radionavigation service, the Earth exploration-satellite service (active) or the space research service (active). One case of harmful interference in Southern California has been reported.

CARSRs are being installed in several dozen locations throughout the country and will use various frequencies in the 1240-1350 MHz range with an occupied bandwidth of about 3 MHz. In the vicinity of the radars, amateur operation may be precluded in a portion of the 23 cm band. The ARRL is in contact with FAA engineers. We anticipate that the constraints on amateur use of the band will be limited to those necessary to protect aviation safety, which of course cannot be compromised.

==> + ON THE AIR: CHANGES PERMIT MORE FIELD CHECKING OF DXCC CARDS

Acting on a recommendation by ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, the ARRL's Programs and Services Committee (PSC), adopted new rules for ARRL field card checkers. ARRL card checkers now may check QSL cards for those entities deleted from the

DXCC list and, with exceptions, check cards for 160 meters. In addition, the PSC decided not to change the process by which card checkers are appointed. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-card-checkers-can-now-check-cards-for-160-meters-deleted-entities>.

==> + FIELD DAY: REGISTER YOUR ARRL FIELD DAY SITE ON THE FIELD DAY LOCATOR

First introduced in 2008, the ARRL's Field Day Station Locator Service <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> has proved a popular addition to the Field Day toolbox. This service -- an interactive map that helps amateurs or those interested in Amateur Radio find a Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> site near them -- is free to clubs or individuals who will be operating public Field Day stations. Stations can also be listed by state or province. So far, hams in 47 states, Puerto Rico and six Canadian provinces have listed Field Day sites on the Field Day Locator. If your group would like to be a part of the Station Locator Service, it's easy to get started -- just go to the Field Day Station Locator website <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> and follow the instructions. ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air operating event in Amateur Radio. On June 23-24, join tens of thousands of radio amateurs as they gather for a public demonstration of the Amateur Service.

==> AMATEUR RADIO IN THE CLASSROOM: ATTENTION TEACHERS: APPLICATIONS FOR TEACHERS INSTITUTE AND ETP GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE SOON

Thinking about using Amateur Radio and wireless technology in your classroom to help facilitate hands-on learning opportunities? The ARRL's Education & Technology Program offers two programs that can help make this happen, but the deadline to apply is fast approaching: The deadline for the 2012 Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology is May 15, while the deadline for equipment and resource grants is May 1. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/attention-teachers-applications-for-teachers-institute-and-etp-grant-applications-due-soon>.

==> + DIGITAL QST: COMING SOON TO A COMPUTER NEAR YOU!

The new digital edition of QST will debut toward the end of May. If you are an ARRL member and you haven't yet signed up to be notified automatically when the digital edition becomes available, you can do so easily. Just click on the "Edit your profile" link on the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/>. Once you are in your profile, click "Edit e-mail subscriptions" and then check the box next to "Notification of monthly digital edition of QST." That's all there is to it. A new FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq> about the digital edition has the answers to the questions ARRL members have been asking (it can also be accessed from the QST page on the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/qst>). We hope you enjoy the new digital edition of QST.

==> MINUTES FROM MARCH'S ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NOW AVAILABLE

The ARRL Executive Committee met
<http://www.arrl.org/news/executive-committee-to-meet-this-weekend-in-missour
i>
on Saturday, March 24 in St Louis, Missouri. The minutes from that
meeting are now available <http://www.arrl.org/board-meetings> on the
ARRL website.

==> INTERNATIONAL NEWS: ITU TELECOM WORLD 2012 CONFERENCE SEEKING
PARTICIPANTS FOR YOUNG INNOVATORS PROGRAM

As part of ITU Telecom World 2012 -- scheduled for October 14-18 in
Dubai -- the conference will present the Young Innovators Program. With
its theme of Youth Innovation for Development, the Young Innovators
Competition is a chance for the next generation of young visionaries to
demonstrate their ideas and innovations on this global stage and show
how their fresh digital thinking can change the world for the better.
The program seeks to attract dynamic, engaged young people and identify
projects with a genuine potential to succeed. The goal of the program
is to build a cohesive international community of highly talented of
social entrepreneurs from age 18-25 who are working on ICT-based
initiatives from the conceptual stage through to projects in areas of
critical relevance to the burning issues facing the world today. Read
more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/itu-telecom-world-2012-conference-seeking-participa
nts-for-young-innovators-program>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: The solar flux and sunspot numbers reached
a short term low on April 8-11, but they are rising again. For the past
week -- April 12-18 -- the average daily sunspot numbers more than
doubled, compared to the previous seven days, rising more than 39
points to 71.7. The average daily solar flux increased from 95.9 to
105.1. The predicted solar flux for April 19-22 is 120, followed by 115
on April 23-26, 105 on April 27-28, 100 on April 29-30, and 95 on May
1-9. The predicted planetary A index is 5, 5, 8, 5, 6, 10, 12 and 8 on
April 19-26, 5 on April 27-29, 8 on April 30, 5 on May 1-7, and 8, 12,
15 and 10 on May 8-11. Look for more information -- including
propagation reports from readers, updated predictions and a piece by
Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, regarding the current stalled state of Solar
Cycle 24 -- on the ARRL website on Friday, April 20. For more
information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical
Information Service Propagation page
<http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> + ARRL/TAPR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE SET FOR ATLANTA

The dates have been set -- September 21-23 -- for the 31st Annual
ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC
<http://www.tapr.org/dcc>) in Atlanta at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel.
The DCC schedule includes forums, demonstrations, a Saturday evening

banquet and an in-depth Sunday seminar. This conference is for everyone with an interest in digital communications -- from beginner to expert. Technical papers are also being solicited for the conference proceedings. You do not have to attend the conference to have your paper included. The submission deadline is July 31. Please send papers to Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, or you can make your submission via e-mail <maty@arrl.org>. Papers will be published exactly as submitted and authors will retain all rights. For more information, please see the DCC website <http://www.tapr.org/dcc> or call TAPR at 972-671-8277.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- April 20-21 -- Holyland DX Contest
- April 21 -- Feld Hell Sprint; EU Spring Sprint (SSB); TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest; ES Open HF Championship
- April 21-22 -- Michigan QSO Party; South Dakota QSO Party; Ontario QSO Party; CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest; EA-QRP CW Contest; YU DX Contest
- April 25 -- 432 MHz Spring Sprint (local time)
- April 25-26 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- April 27 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- April 28-29 -- Florida QSO Party; Nebraska QSO Party; 10-10 International Spring Contest (Digital); SP DX RTTY Contest; Helvetia Contest; QRP to the Field
- April 29 -- BARTG Sprint 75
- May 1 -- AGCW QRP/QRP Party

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- April 20-22 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-2>, Boise, Idaho; 63rd International DX Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/63rd-international-dx-convention>, Visalia, California
- April 21 -- ARRL Delaware State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delaware-state-convention-delmarva-amateur-radio-electronics-expo-1>, Georgetown, Delaware; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-1>, Monroe,

Louisiana
- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee
- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electro
nics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 4 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia

- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

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ons>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org>. Follow us on
Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store>
to enhance your enjoyment of Amateur Radio

Donate <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form> to the fund of your
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<http://www.arrl.org/Users/edit#!/edit-info-email_subscriptions>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

107. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1810 - April 20 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-20 09:00:20 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120420090002.AE2C733C6F@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 426
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1810 - April 20 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1810 with a release date of April 20th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. A new report released by a ham in Germany highlights various radar sources that could interfere with amateur radio; the Sun shows its might again as a major eruption hits the North-East limb; amateur radio responds to tornado devastation in the central U-S; Scouting gets its own IRLP Topic Channel and Riley is coming to CQ Magazine. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1810 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

WORLDBEAT: NEW OTH RADAR REPORT RELEASED BY DK20M

A new paper released by a ham in Germany may shed some light on sources of interference on the ham bands caused by radar systems world-wide. Jim Davis, W2JKD, has more:

--

Wolfgang Hadel DK2OM has made available a report documenting High Frequency Over The Horizon radar systems used around the world. Also included are Ionosphere and Troposhere Diagnostic Radars as well as well as Ocean Wave and Coastal Radars. All of these can interfere with amateur radio and shortwave listening.

The report is an exceedingly thorough look at these various Radar systems and their uses. It also includes explanations of how some of these systems work and include photographs, maps and graphs of some of the operations.

The 36 page report is free to anyone who wants a copy. You can download it in Adobe .pdf format at tinyurl.com/oth-radar-report.

I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

Again that U-R-L to obtain a free copy of the paper is tinyurl.com/oth-radar-report

(IARU-R1)

**

NEWSLINE FOLLOW-UP: NEW RADAR MAY HAVE CAUSED SOCAL HAM TO ECEIVE NOV

A follow-up and a possible answer to the question raised last week of just what aeronautical radar system Gary Dent, AF6HP, was issued a Notice of Violation by the FCC for interfering with. Its now been made public that the FAA is in the process deploying a new generation of Common Air Route Surveillance Radar that operates in the 23 centimeter band. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with what we know:

--

Well Don, most of what we know comes in the form of a news release from the ARRL Letter. It says that the deployment of what is known as the updated Common Air Route Surveillance Radar has some implications for the use of the 1240 to 1300 MHz band by radio amateurs.

According to the ARRL story, the improved Common Air Route Surveillance Radar systems are being installed in several dozen locations throughout the country, albeit the exact placement has not been announced. And as stated, this radar system is a primary user of the band meaning that any and all other users must protect it from any man made interference. That includes amateur radio which holds secondary status.

At this point, all that's really known is that the radar will use various frequencies in the 1240-1350 MHz range with an occupied bandwidth of about 3 MHz. As such, the League says that in the vicinity of these radars, amateur operation may be precluded in a portion of the 23 cm band.

The ARRL says that it is in contact with FAA engineers and that it anticipates that the constraints on amateur use of the band will be limited to those necessary to protect aviation safety. This of coarse is something that cannot ever be compromised.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

Whether or not this radar is the reason that AF6HP received his Notice of Violation is not known because it's also not known if the Los Angeles area is the home of one of the improved radar facilities. Nor does it explain the additional charge of broadcasting that was included in the NOV issued to AF6HP. (ARRL, others)

**

PROPAGATION: SPECTACULAR APRIL 16th EXPLOSION ON THE SUN

Another spectacular display from old Sol. On April 16th around 17:45 UTC, magnetic fields curling over the sun's northeastern limb rose up and erupted, producing one of the most visually-spectacular explosions in years.

The event, which also produced an M1.7-class solar flare and a coronal mass ejection, was not Earth-directed. Nevertheless, it confirms suspicions that a significant active region of our home star is rotating onto the Earth facing side of the sun. This could mean more flares and some interesting propagation in the coming days and weeks.

Please visit spaceweather.com for videos of this solar event and the very latest updates. (W0WOI, VHF Reflector)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: K4ZDH NAMED NEW CQ MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Retired FCC amateur radio enforcement chief Riley Hollingsworth, K-4-Zed-D-H, has been named a CQ magazine contributing editor, succeeding "Washington Readout" editor Fred Maia, W5YI, who recently became a Silent Key.

Hollingsworth, a ham since 1960 and a longtime FCC attorney became a household name in amateur radio in 1998. That's when he was named Special Counsel for Amateur Radio in the Commission's then newly-created Enforcement Bureau.

His highly-visible enforcement actions were cheered by a majority in the amateur community. Especially after more than a decade during which FCC enforcement on the ham bands was virtually non existent.

Riley Hollingsworth retired from the FCC in 2008, but has continued to be in demand for personal appearances within the ham radio community. And according to CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, he was the natural choice for a column on regulatory matters concerning amateur radio:

--

W2VU: "If you are looking for a columnist on regulatory affairs, who is better qualified than Riley Hollingsworth?

"He spent 30 years in the FCC; kept us all in-line for over a decade; continues to be a widely sought after speaker at hamfests and clubs and is very widely respected throughout the amateur community."

--

Riley Hollingsworth's new monthly column will be titled "Riley's Ramblings." According to Moseson, it will incorporate "Washington Readout's" coverage of legislative and administrative actions that affect amateur radio along with additional topics of importance and/or interest to CQ's readers and the ham radio public at large.

Hollingsworeth's first column will appear in the July, 2012, issue of CQ. In it he will explain why ongoing FCC enforcement actions since his retirement have been somewhat "under the radar."

Riley Hollingsworth holds a Master's degree from the University of South Carolina, and a law degree from Wake Forest University. He lives in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Pat. (CQ)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W7KYC repeater serving the city of Portland, Oregon.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: AMATEUR RADIO RESPONDS TO MID-WEST TORNADOES

Amateur radio operators in several states responded as a spate of tornadoes devastated areas of several states. We have more in this report:

--

When high winds and tornadoes called on Oklahoma Friday, April 13th, amateur radio Skywarn spotters and Amateur Radio Emergency Service members were ready.

Rick Smith, KI5GT, the warning coordination meteorologist in Norman said: "Once again, storm spotters played a critical role in helping the National Weather Service and local officials deal with dangerous storms during the past week across Oklahoma.

Amateur radio reports from local storm spotters gave forecasters important ground truth information when tornadoes struck southwest Oklahoma on April 13th. And it was a trained storm spotter from a volunteer fire department in northwest Oklahoma who alerted the National Weather Service as the tornado that would go on to strike Woodward, Oklahoma first developed. That information prompted a tornado warning that gave residents of Woodward about 20 minutes advance warning."

Near the town a Blair, Altus Skywarn Association members were providing spotter reports on the WX5ASA repeater system. In fact, the day after the tornado, Skywarn Coordinator Steve Grayson, KE5BPL, was leading a team of Red Cross volunteers in damage assessment. Within another two days, Grayson was deployed to Woodward to help with the recovery from the tragic F-3 tornado strike there.

Similar stories played out in the "tornado ravaged" cities of Woodward, Cherokee, and Norman where a total of seven deaths were reported. Cleanup and Recovery continues in Oklahoma which has seen at least one County so far declared by the Governor as a disaster area.

In addition to Oklahoma, several other states suffered storm damage as well. There, ham radio operators played key roles in severe weather spotting and relief efforts as well.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

More on this in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (KC5FM, National Weather Service Norman OK., others)

**

RADIO LAW: HAM GATHERING SIGNATURES ON PETITION TO VOID ANTENNA PROHIBITIONS

N4UM tells Newsline that he has begun a petition drive to the FCC. This, in an attempt to get the regulatory agency to void antenna prohibitions by developers and Home Owners Associations.

As of this report the petition has garnered over 700 signatures. N4UM says that he is doing this now because the FCC is currently requesting formal comments on emergency communications in amateur radio. The agency also wants to know the effects of impediments to the amateur radio service as part of the Docket GN 12-91 inquiry.

Comments on this federal study close on May 17th. N4UM says that his petition will also close on this same day. You can find his petition on-line at tinyurl.com/antenna-rights (N4UM)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC SETTLES 2007 UNCERTIFIED TRANSMITTERS WITH CONSENT DECREE

A Consent Decree has ended the case involving a hobby electronics supplier accused by the FCC of selling non-certified broadcast transmitters in the United States. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

--

The FCC has entered into a Consent Decree with Richard Mann doing business as the Antique Radio Collector. The Consent Decree settles an enforcement proceeding begun back in November of 2006, when the FCC's Spectrum Enforcement Division issued the Letter of Inquiry to Mann in response to a complaint alleging that he was assembling SSTRAN model AMT3000 AM transmitters built from kits and then marketing them in the United States.

In March of 2007 the regulatory agency issued the Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture against Mann in the amount of $7,000 wich was affirmed that November. This lead to a number of Petitions for Reconsideration over the next 5 years and finally to a decision by the FCC and Mann that it would be far more prudent to finalize the matter through a Consent Decree. This decree has now been accepted by all parties and brings the matter to a close.

For the Amateur radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

You can read the entire decision and the text of the Consent Decree on-line at tinyurl.com/RichardMannConsentDecree (CGC, FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: ANOTHER UNLICENSED FLORIDA BROADCASTER FINED

The FCC has affirmed a Forfeiture Order in the amount of ten $10,000 to Robenson Thermitus of Miami, Florida. This for his alleged operation of an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 98.7 MHz in the Miami area.

Back on January 20, 2012, the Enforcement Bureau's Miami Office issued the $10,000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Thermitus. Since that time Thermitus has not filed a response to the NAL.

Now, based on the information the FCC has before it, the regulatory agency has now upheld the forfeiture order and given. Its also provided Thermitus the customary 30 days to pay the fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

HAM RADIO AND SCOUTING: NEW DEDICATED IRLP TOPIC CHANNEL FOR SCOUTS

Radio Scouting and the Jamboree on the Air now have a common meeting place for Internet Radio Linking Project contacts or IRLP. As one of the new Topic Channels, scouts need only connect to IRLP Node 9091 to make contact with one another.

The Radio Scouting and Jamboree on the Air Topic Channel is available for use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A recommended time for calling has initially been established for 1800 UTC for weekend activities, such as Radio Merit Badge events, as well as contacts during Summer Camp. Another suggested time is 0100 UTC to accommodate most scouts during the evening hours.

For detailed information on available IRLP repeaters in your area, how IRLP works and operating guidelines, visit www.irlp.net on the World-Wide-Web. For more information about this and other IRLP Topic Channels take your web browser to www.irlptopics.net. (NZART)

**

WITH QCWA: BECOME A MEMBER OR PAY DUES ON-LINE

The Quarter Century Wireless Association has announced that those eligible can now join the organization or renew membership on-line.

The link to the applications are at www.qcwa.org/how-to-join.php After you complete the form, click 'Add to Cart. From there you yiu will be taken to PayPal to complete the transaction.

You don't need to be a member of PayPal to use a Debit or Credit card. You do need to be a member of PayPal to use your checking or savings account electronic transfer. Eligibility to join QCWA requires a

continuous 25 years as a licensed amateur radio operator. (N0UF)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: N6G TO CELEBRATE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE AT AGE 75

A Healdsburg, California ham has announced a special event operation to celebrate the 75th anniversary of one of the states most usefull landmarks. Jim Damron, N8TMW, is here with more:

--

Will Pattullo, AE6YB, tells Newsline that he will be hosting special event N6G an May 26 and the 27th. This to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the opening of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.

AE6YB says he will definitely be on 7.265, 14.265 and 21.265 MHz during the two-day operation. He will also try to get on 80 and 10 meters if time permits. Domestic U-S stations should QSL N6G via AE6YB with a self addressed stamped envelope direct via his callbook address. DX stations are asked to include a US dollar to cover return postage.

>From Charleston, West Virginia, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, reporting.

--

More about the event is on line at AE6YB's information page on QRZ.com. (AE6YB)

**

HAMVENTION HAMVENTION 2012 AFFILIATED EVENT: MEGALINKT TO PROVIDE HAMVENTION AREA WIDE COVERAGE

If you will be attending Hamvention 2012, heres a bit of news for you. And again this year, K9NZF Systems and the Chief Anderson Amateur Radio Club are hosting the Dayton Hamvention MegALinK special event wide area voice network.

The MegALinK was conceived as a way to provide FM mobile voice coverage from west central Indiana all the way to Dayton, Ohio. This year it will also provide coverage into and on the grounds of the Dayton Hamvention itself.

More about it and how to use it is on-line at www.k9nzf.com. Questions and comments go by e-mail to megalink (at) k9nzf (dot) com. (K9ZF Systems)

**

HAMVENTION 2012 AFFILIATED EVENT TALK VIA A SATELLITE AT THE DAYTON HAMVENTION

AMSAT is inviting students attending the 2012 Dayton Hamvention to stop by the Satellite Demonstration Area just outside of the Ball Area entrance. This to experience the thrill of taking part in an actual

contact using one or more of the currently on-orbit amateur satellites.

There will be AMSAT volunteers there to explain how to make the contacts and during actual satellite passes. AMSAT adds that its volunteers will try to get as many students as possible to complete actual contacts.

There will be lists of satellite pass times in the satellite demonstration area and at the AMSAT booth inside the exhibition area to help those wanting to talk via a satellite to plan their schedule accordingly. (ANS)

**

HAMVENTION 2012 AFFILIATED EVENT: A MORNING OF D-STAR INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTION

Hamvention goers who are thinking of getting a D-STAR radio or those who are newly involved in the technology might want to take note of an affiliated event session.

A three hour class titled "A Morning of D-STAR Information and Instruction for New D-STAR Users" will take place on Friday, May 18th from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon Eastern Daylight time with check-in starting at 8:30 a.m.. The venue is the Drury Inn Ballroom located at 6616 Miller Lane, in Dayton.

There, several well known instructors will take you step by step into the world of D-Star digital audio communications. Some of the subjects to be covered include what D-STAR is, what can it do and how is it used. You will also learn what equipment is currently available, how radio memory management works, how to link to other repeaters and reflectors and much more. And those who attend will be eligible at a chance to win an Icom ID-31A handheld D-STAR radio.

The cost of the session is $25 and anyone planning to attend must register on-line before April 25th. To do that, simply take your web browser to tinyurl.com/dstar-dayton-register and fill in the required fields. More information on the session itself can be found at www.dstarinfo.com. (DSTARINFO.COM)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: EMCOMMWEST - MAY 4 TO 6 IN RENO NEVADA

While the Dayton Hamvention is the show on almost everyones mind, its not the only big show happening in May. Another is Emcommwest that's held each year in Reno, Nevada. Here's Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, with the details:

--

Emcommwest is returning to Reno, NV on May 4th through the 6th. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the ARRL Specialty Convention, with focus on Emergency Communications. But hurry, the advance registration deadline will be at Midnight on Saturday April 28th.

This year our ARRL Keynote speaker will be League COO Harold Kramer, WJ1B who will bring us the latest on Amateur Radio in general, with our ARRL Forum, hosted by Pacific Division Director Bob vallio, W6RGG.

We are especially proud to bring special guest and Sat. night banquet speaker Chip Margelli, K7JA, who was with Heil Sound for many years and is now Director of Sales & Marketing for CQ Magazine. You may remember Chip from the Code vs. Texting contest on the Jay Leno show a few years back. Emcommwest is honored to have this Amateur Radio legend join us for the 10th anniversary year.

The Sunday morning breakfast will welcome back Tom Taormina K5RC operator of the legendary contest station.

New this year will be an "ARES Leadership Forum" on Sunday morning, with a panel of SEC's discussing new ideas, innovations, large scale exercises and a wide variety of topics of interest to the Emergency Communications world in Amateur Radio.

Also new this year will be NARRI's VOIP conference all day Friday May 4th, Of course there will be the Friday night BBQ hosted by the SATERN team, vendor hall, Saturday morning swap meet and a host of topical forums and training sessions again this year.

For The Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM in Reno.

--

For more information and registration, please head to the website emcommwest.org, or email info (at) emcommwest (dot) org. (Emcommwest)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: LYRID METEOR SHOWER APRIL 21-22

The rocks in the sky are coming again. W0WOI reports via the VHF Reflector that Earth is approaching the debris field of ancient Comet Thatcher which is the source of the annual Lyrid meteor shower.

Forecasters expect the shower to peak on April 21st and 22nd. A nearly new moon on those dates will provide perfect dark-sky conditions for meteor watching.

According to meteor scatter enthusiasts, usually the shower is mild with about 10 to 20 meteors per hour. But unmapped filaments of dust in the comet's tail sometimes trigger outbursts 10 times stronger.

You can follow the approaching event and get nmore information on it on-line at spaceweather.com. (W0WOI via VHF Reflector)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM - MAY 12

The South Africa AMSAT Space Symposium will be held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal on Saturday May 12th. The theme of the symposium is five decades of amateur satellites and celebrating the launch of OSCAR 1 fifty years ago. The full program and registration details are at tinyurl.com/sa-amsat-symposium (SARL)

**

ON THE AIR: VO1AA SPECIAL EVENT TO CELEBRATE MARCONI BIRTHDAY

On the air, the Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs will be celebrating the birthday of inventor Guglielmo Marconi. This, by operating station VO1AA on Wednesday, April 25th and welcoming some special guest at the same time.

The club plans on making an amateur eadio contact with Princess Elettra Marconi who will be in Bologna, Italy to celebrate her father's birthday. On this side of the Atlantic it is planned to have the Canadian Heritage Minister, the City of St. John's Mayor along with the Newfoundland Lieutenant Governor, exchange greetings with the Princess via amateur radio from VO1AA which will be located at the Cabot Tower.

This is the first time that this event has been attempted. As such, it is anticipated that it may attain a high level media exposure for amateur radio in Canada and possibly in Italy as well. Marconi received the first wireless signal at Signal Hill, Newfoundland. (VO1DTM/VO1DM)

**

DX

In DX, word that ON4CIT is reporting that a DXpedition to Togo will take place at the end of 2012 or the beginning of 2013. The callsign mentioned is 5V7TH. The exact dates are still to be determined. More as new information is made available.

OH1VR will be operational portable SV9 from Crete between April 21st and the 28th. OH1VR along with OH1ZAA will then be on the air portable VP9 from Bermuda between May 7th and the 13th. Activity for both operations will be on the HF bands and 6 meters, and using CW and SSB. QSL via their respective home callsigns.

Members of the Polish Amateur Radio Club Flora Fauna are active as HF-87-WARD through April 30th. This to celebrate the World Amateur

Radio Day and the 87th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union. QSL electronically via eQSL.cc and W-F-F LogSerach.

ZL1DD is now active as XU7AEL from the XU7AAA Rental Shack in Cambodia. He should be at that location through at least April 21st. Operation is on 80 through 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign.

VE2XB will be on the air as V-31-X-B from Caye Caulker Island, Belize, between May 11th and the 31st. His activity will be on all High Frequency bands, as well as 6 meters. Modes mentioned are CW and SSB using an Elecraft K3 into a Hexbeam. QSL via VE2XB as listed on QRZ.com.

Lastly, ON4CIT and ON4BEC will be active as TO3X from St Barthelemy through April 30th. They will be using 40 through 6 meters on SSB and RTTY with some CW. QSL via ON4CIT, direct, via the bureau, or electronically using Logbook of the World

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: JAPAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY PLANS SPACE ELEVATOR

And finally this week, while it might the stuff of science fiction dreams are made ofr, a Japanese construction company has announced that it will have built a working space elevator by 2050. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, is here with this glimpse into the future:

--

Imagine putting a microsat under your arm, taking it on an elevator ride to a geostationary on-orbit outpost and eventually hsving it tossed into space. Such might be the case in about 40 to 50 years if the plans of a Japan-based construction company come to pass,

According to the The Daily Yomiuri newspaper, the company known as Obayashi Corporation has announced it will build a kind of space elevator by the year 2050. One that will be capable of shuttling passengers and supplies 36,000 kilometers above the Earth.

The company plans to use carbon nanontubes, which are said to be 20 times stronger than steel, to produce the cables required for the elevator. Those cables will be stretched to a counterweight 96,000 kilometers above our planet. Thats about one-fourth of the distance between the Earth and the moon.

An Obayashi official told the newspaper that the terminal station to be located 36,000 kilometers above Earth, will be reached by cars that can carry 30 people and travel at 200 kilometers per hour.

He adds that at this moment, the company cannot estimate the cost for the project. However, they will try to make steady progress so that it won't end just up as simply a dream.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Heather Butera-Howell. KB3TZD, looking at the future from near Burwick, Pennsylvania.

--

The Obayashi spokesperson could not estimate the cost the cost of the project but did admit that it will be high. And whether this project can actually become a reality is up for discussion for at least the time being. (Yomiuri News)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, TWIT-TV, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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108. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-22 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1335074401@panix.com>
Source record: 427
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

109. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-22 06:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1335074700@panix.com>
Source record: 428
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

110. Reminder: Nebraska QSO Party April 28-29

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-22 14:36:34 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120422140025.D3CD723A69@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 429
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,oma.general,nebr.misc,rec.radio.info

The Heartland DX Association is pleased to announce that the 2012
edition of the Nebraska QSO Party will be held this year the weekend of
April 28-29. The contest begins at 1100Z (0600 CDT) on Saturday April
28 and runs through 1700Z (1200 CDT) on Sunday April 29. Official
Rules, Summary Sheet, Log Sheet and Nebraska Mobile Worksheet can be
downloaded in PDF format from the HDXA Web Site at
http://www.hdxa.net/neqso/. This is a great opportunity for Nebraska
hams to get on the air and activate some of the rarer counties in the
Country and publicize amateur radio in Nebraska.

73 and hope to see you in the contest.

Bill Jackson, K9RZ
President, HDXA

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org

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111. The ARRL Letter for April 26, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-26 20:08:27 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120426193328.D34A624409@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 430
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

April 26, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
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- + On the Air: WPX Awards via LoTW Enters Beta Testing
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- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + DAYTON HAMVENTION: ARRL EXPO -- WHERE THE DX COMES TO YOU!
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As part of the ARRL EXPO -- part of the 2012 Dayton Hamvention® -- the ARRL is pleased to present a plethora of DX activities. Visitors to the ARRL EXPO will see a lot of DX activities, including DXCC card checking and a chance to drop off QSL cards for the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau, as well as representatives from the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) and IARU Member-Societies. The Dayton Hamvention will take place May 18-20 at Hara Arena, located near Dayton, Ohio. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-expo-at-the-dayton-hamvention-where-the-dx-comes-to-you-1>.

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==> + ON THE AIR: WPX AWARDS VIA LOTW ENTERS BETA TESTING
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Earlier this year, the ARRL and CQ Communications announced that the ARRL will provide support for CQ-sponsored operating awards by the ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW) electronic confirmation system. The WPX Award is the first of the CQ-sponsored awards that LoTW will support. "We had originally planned to introduce this new program in early April, but due to the introduction of the new DXCC fee structure and our new Online DXCC application, we had to push the date back," explained ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B. "We are now beta testing the program with a select group of hams and are looking forward to launching to LoTW-WPX partnership in the first part of May." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/wpx-awards-via-lotw-enters-beta-testing>.

==> + ARRL THANKS RADIO AMATEURS WHO FILED COMMENTS

In April, the FCC put out a Public Notice <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-public-comments-on-emergency-communications-by-amateur-radio-and-impediments-to-amateur-ra>, requesting comments regarding a Congress-mandated study to assess Amateur Radio's role in emergency and disaster communications and the impact of private land use regulations on the amateur community's ability to provide such communications. The ARRL asked that the amateur community forward comments directly to the ARRL so that it could use them to develop its comments -- more than 1200 radio amateurs responded! These comments will be reviewed in the next few weeks and used to help bolster the ARRL's formal response by the FCC's May 17 deadline. Thanks to everyone who took the time to send their comments!

==> + AMATEUR RADIO IN THE CLASSROOM: APPLY TO HOST A REAL-TIME CONVERSATION WITH ISS CREWMEMBERS

NASA is now accepting proposals from US schools, museums, science centers and community youth organizations to host an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-on-the-international-space-station>) contact between November 1, 2012 and May 1, 2013. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, NASA is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan. Proposals are due July 2, 2012.

Using Amateur Radio, students can ask astronauts questions about life in space and other space-related topics. Students fully engage in the ARISS contact by helping set up an Amateur Radio ground station at the school and then using that station to talk directly with a crew member on the International Space Station for approximately 10 minutes. ARISS has a network of mentors to help organizations obtain the technology required to host this exciting opportunity for your students.

Interested parties should contact NASA's Teaching From Space office via e-mail <JSC-TFS-ARISS@mail.nasa.gov> to obtain complete information, the proposal/application form. You can find more information here <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/teachingfromspace/students/ariss.h

tml>.

==> + FIELD DAY: REGISTER YOUR ARRL FIELD DAY SITE ON THE FIELD DAY LOCATOR

First introduced in 2008, the ARRL's Field Day Station Locator Service <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> has proved a popular addition to the Field Day toolbox. This service -- an interactive map that helps amateurs or those interested in Amateur Radio find a Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> site near them -- is free to clubs or individuals who will be operating public Field Day stations. Stations can also be listed by state or province. So far, hams in 49 states, Puerto Rico and eight Canadian provinces, as well as a station located just outside Bogot&#65533;, Colombia, have listed Field Day sites on the Field Day Locator. If your group would like to be a part of the Station Locator Service, it's easy to get started -- just go to the Field Day Station Locator website <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator> and follow the instructions. ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air operating event in Amateur Radio. On June 23-24, join tens of thousands of radio amateurs as they gather for a public demonstration of the Amateur Service.

==> SUPPORT ARRL: ATTENTION FEDERAL EMPLOYEES: ARRL APPROVED FOR 2012 COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN!

For the past 11 years, the US Office of Personnel Management has designated the ARRL to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the annual giving campaign for federal employees. In that time, this campaign for federal government civilian employees, US Postal Service workers and members of the military has generated almost $192,000 for ARRL programs. The CFC provides an easy way to support the ARRL's effort to represent its members and all radio amateurs. Similar to the United Way, the CFC encourages individuals employed in all branches of the federal government to pledge by payroll deduction to non-profit organizations of their choice. The ARRL encourages eligible radio amateurs to consider the League when designating campaign recipients. Payroll deduction through the CFC is an easy way for participants to support ARRL over and above their annual membership. Such contributions support programs that are not funded by member dues, enriching ARRL's ability to serve its members and all of Amateur Radio. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/attention-federal-employees-arrl-approved-for-2012-combined-federal-campaign>.

==> + INTERNATIONAL NEWS: ITU TELECOM WORLD 2012 CONFERENCE SEEKING PARTICIPANTS FOR YOUNG INNOVATORS PROGRAM

As part of ITU Telecom World 2012 -- scheduled for October 14-18 in Dubai -- the conference will present the Young Innovators Program. With its theme of Youth Innovation for Development, the Young Innovators Competition is a chance for the next generation of young visionaries to demonstrate their ideas and innovations on this global stage and show

how their fresh digital thinking can change the world for the better. The program seeks to attract dynamic, engaged young people and identify projects with a genuine potential to succeed. The goal of the program is to build a cohesive international community of highly talented of social entrepreneurs from age 18-25 who are working on ICT-based initiatives from the conceptual stage through to projects in areas of critical relevance to the burning issues facing the world today. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/itu-telecom-world-2012-conference-seeking-participants-for-young-innovators-program>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "When the Sun gives way to April showers <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMCU7OF3sVM>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity revived over the past week, with a big increase in sunspot numbers. On Friday, April 20, the daily sunspot number reached 162; four days later on April 24, the number reached 169. This level of activity has not been seen since last fall, when the daily sunspot number reached 173 on September 16, 184 on October 21 and 208 on November 9. The average daily sunspot numbers more than doubled over the previous week's average, rising 73 points to 144.7, while the average daily solar flux was 133.9, an increase of nearly 29 points. Associated with all this was a rise in geomagnetic activity, peaking with a planetary A index of 35 on Tuesday, April 24. The geomagnetic activity increase was due to several solar flares launched from new sunspots. The latest forecast shows the solar flux at 125 on April 26, 120 on April 27-29, 115 on April 30, 110 on May 1-2, 105 on May 3-4, 110 on May 5-6, 115 on May 7-8, 120 on May 9, 130 on May 10-12, 135 on May 13, 140 on May 14-17, and down to 135 on May 18-21. Predictions for the planetary A index are 25, 15, 6, 5, 5, 8 and 6 on April 26-May 2, 5 on May 3-7, rising to 8, 12, 15 and 10 on May 8-11, and back down to 5 on May 12-19. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, April 27. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Al Jolson's April Showers <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/April_Showers_%28song%29>.

==> + ARRL/TAPR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE SET FOR ATLANTA

The dates have been set -- September 21-23 -- for the 31st Annual ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC <http://www.tapr.org/dcc>) in Atlanta at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel. The DCC schedule includes forums, demonstrations, a Saturday evening banquet and an in-depth Sunday seminar. This conference is for everyone with an interest in digital communications -- from beginner to expert. Technical papers are also being solicited for the conference proceedings. You do not have to attend the conference to have your paper included. The submission deadline is July 31. Please send papers to Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, or you can

make your submission via e-mail <maty@arrl.org>. Papers will be published exactly as submitted and authors will retain all rights. For more information, please see the DCC website <http://www.tapr.org/dcc> or call TAPR at 972-671-8277.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- April 27 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- April 28-29 -- Florida QSO Party; Nebraska QSO Party; 10-10 International Spring Contest (Digital); SP DX RTTY Contest; Helvetia Contest; QRP to the Field
- April 29 -- BARTG Sprint 75
- May 1 -- AGCW QRP/QRP Party

Next week:

- May 4 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- May 5 -- Microwave Spring Sprint (local time)
- May 5-6 -- New England QSO Party; Indiana QSO Party; 7th Call Area QSO Party; 10-10 International Spring Contest (CW); ARI International DX Contest; Araucaria VHF Contest
- May 8 -- ARS Spartan Sprint
- May 9-10 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>, Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>, Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>, Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers, Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,

Tennessee
- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electro
nics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 4 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

112. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1811 - April 27 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-27 09:00:15 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120427090003.DA92F33C9A@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 431
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1811 - April 27 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1811 with a release date of April 27th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. Japan says it will be launching 16 educational ham-sats; NASA says now is time for educators to request I-S-S contacts for 2013; UK hams learn of ham band restrictions during the 2012 Olympics; US hams will not be affected by Part 90 narrow-banding and a new video on VHF and UHF digital audio is on-line. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1811 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: JAPAN TO LAUNCH 16 NEW EDUCATIONAL HAM-SATS

Japan says that it plans to launch sixteen educational satellites over the next two years. The tiny birds are currently under construction in Japan with the first launch to take place on May 17th followed by the others in as rapid succession as possible. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

The first of the new birds to be launched will be the amateur radio satellite HORYU-2 built by students at the Kyushu Institute of Technology. Its mission is to take pictures of the Earth using a small C-MOS camera called SCAMP that was developed by the University of Surrey in the UK. The SCAMP camera takes a 640x480 pixel picture in the popular JPEG format. That means from 700 km altitude, one pixel corresponds to 1.6 km.

HORYU-2 will be followed in July by the transport of several items to the International Space Station. This mission will deliver the Japanese Experiment Module Small Satellite Orbital Deployer or JEM along with the Japanese CubeSats WE-WISH, FITSAT-1 and RAIKO. These CubeSats should be deployed from the ISS in September using the JEM and robot arm.

FITSAT-1 may be the most interesting of these. It will use a neodymium magnet for attitude control. It will also have multiple downlinks. These include CW on 437.250 MHz, AX.25 on 437.445 MHz and a 4 watt high speed data transmitter on 5840 MHz. The latter is capable of sending a

640 by 480 VGA JPEG image in 6 seconds.

In addition to its other experiments, FITSAT-1 will also carry a set of high power LED's that will be driven with 100W pulses to produce extremely bright flashes. It is hoped, will be observable by the unaided eye or with small binoculars from the ground. Both the 5840 MHz and optical downlinks have a high power consumption so it may be that they are only activated only over Japan.

In December the TSUBAME satellite is planned to be launched on a Japanese H-IIA booster. It will carry a CW beacon on 437.250 MHz and AX.25 packet at 1200 and 9600 bit per second telemetry on 437.505 MHz. The remaining satellites will be placed into orbit on subsequent flights.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, bear Burwick, Pennsylvania.

--

Further information on all the satellites can be found on line at www.uk.amsat.org/6691 (AMSAT-UK, JA-AMSAT)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NASA OPENS PROPOSAL CYCLE FOR 2013 CLASSROOM ISS CONTACTS

NASA's Teaching From Space Office has announced a new proposal cycle for United States ARISS school contacts. Proposals may be submitted from April 23rd through July 2nd for contacts that will be scheduled beginning in January 2013.

NASA says that informational sessions will be held to answer any questions concerning the proposal process. To attend a session or to have questions answered, contact the Teaching From Space office by e-mail to JSC-TFS-ARISS (at) mail (dot) nasa (dot) gov. You can also call the office during normal business hours Eastern time at 281-244-1919. More information is on the Teaching From Space website at tinyurl.com/teach-from-space. (NASA)

**

RADIO SAFETY: RADIO HOBBYIST LOOSES LIFE IN ANTENNA ACCIDENT

A sad story from down-under where a radio hobbyist has been killed in a strange accident. Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News is here with whats known so far:

--

Police are investigating the death of a man who fell from his vehicle onto an antenna at his hobby farm. The 51 year-old man is believed to have suffered fatal injuries after he fell onto the 20 meter high metal antenna at the Cunderdin property in Western Australia.

Police spokeswoman Ros Weatherall said the antenna was used for surveying services, and had been removed by the man from the roof rack of his Landcruiser utility before the incident. Initial investigations reveal that he may have slipped from the top of the car and fallen onto the antenna.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News in Australia.

--

As we go to air the victim has not been identified by authorities. Nor is it known if he may have been a VK radio amateur. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/7kehv5s (VK4BAT, WIA News)

**

2012 OLYMPICS: UK REGULATOR OFCOM ANNOUNCES HAM BAND RESTRICTIONS DURING 2012 OLYMPICS

Details of amateur band frequency restrictions during the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games have now been released by U-K Telecommunications regulator Ofcom. The greatest impact to ham radio appears to be satellite and other operations in the 436 to 437 Mhz segment of 70 centimeters. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, explains why:

--

Parts of the 70, 13 and 9 centimeter amateur bands in the United Kingdom will face restrictions between June 28th and September 23rd. This, due to need for spectrum during the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The restrictions only apply in geographically limited areas, with 70cm being particularly affected around London and Weymouth. Also hard hit by the restrictions will be ham radio satellite operations.

According to a notice on the AMSAT-UK web site the Amateur-satellite Service allocation in the 435 to 438 MHz range will be restricted to 436.25 to 437.25 MHz. This is based on an understanding that the equipment being used for Olympics communications in the 430 MHz band will include handheld FM rigs at the hotels, the routes to the venues and at the venues themselves.

The U-K communications regulator Ofcom say the use of radio by amateurs in the designated areas could cause interference to various communications at the games. Also, it is possible that higher power transmissions from outside these areas could cause interference as well. Consequently, to avoid the risk of interference, Ofcom has requested that United Kingdom amateurs do not operate within the frequency ranges it has outlined. This says AMSAT-UK means that the spectrum identified by Ofcom should be avoided for a considerable distance outside the designated Olympic communications zones.

AMSAT-UK notes that a well equipped station on a good site 75 km or more from the edge of an Olympics communications zone could still put a fairly decent signal into that area.

Newsline did a bit of research and found that the closest heavily populated mainland European city to London appears to be Calais, France. This is mainly over water path only about 93 airline miles or 149 kilometers away from the closest Olympic venue.

That said, Ofcom has so far not asked the French or any other European telecommunications administrations to restrict their nations Amateur Service allocations during the Olympic and Paralympic games.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Norm Seeley, KI7UP, far from the U-K in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

More on this is on-line at www.uk.amsat.org/6574 and RSGB.org/olympics. (GB2RS, AMSAT-UK, ARNewsline(tm))

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W7KYC repeater serving Portland Oregon.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO RULES: US PART 97 HAM RADIO NOT AFFECTED BY FCC PART 90 NARROWBANDING

A lot of mis-information is going around in amateur radio FM and repeater circles regarding an upcoming FCC mandate on narrow-banding communications in the 150 to 512 MHz spectrum is finally being debunked. Ham radio is not affected by this change as we hear from Amateur radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK:

--

Much of the mis-information regarding narrowband on amateur radio FM appears to be coming from hams who have purchased various low cost Part 90 radios built in China. These radios are capable of narrowband operation on the 2 meter and 70 centimeter ham bands in addition to Part 90 frequencies.

The manuals that come with these radios are written with Part 90 users in mind and much of the material has no meaning to Part 97 Amateur Service operations. However, some hams do not realize this and that's likely the way the erroneous rumors that ham radio FM and repeater operations at 70 centimeters and above would have to narrowband got started.

To make it clear, ham radio is not affected in any way by this FCC edict and your ham gear is not going to become obsolete.

The switch to 12.5 KHz from the current 25 KHz channel spacing only affects operations in the FCC Part 90 regulated services. There is no narrow band mandate by the FCC for Part 97 ham radio operations. Hams are free to voluntarily switch to narrowband operations if they so desire, but the Amateur Part 97 Service as a whole is not obligated to make any change.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

Once again, ham radio is in no way affected by the switch of Part 90 to narrowband operation. What ham radio decides is strictly up to those within the hobby to determine. (Repeater Remailer, ARNewsline(tm))

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC SAYS IT WONT RECONSIDER NYC $10000 FINE

The FCC has told Alexander Kissi, that he must pay a $10,000 fine for operating of an unlicensed radio broadcast station on the frequency 96.5 MHz in Bronx, New York. In its April 20th Memorandum Opinion and Order, the FCC noted that back on February 28 and March 1, 2008, agents in the Enforcement Bureau's New located the unlicensed transmitter at a two-story building on White Plains Road in the Bronx. After completing the field strength measurements the agents returned to conduct a station inspection. The agents spoke to a man who worked there and a woman who was doing a live radio broadcast from a small broadcast studio. In response to agents' questions both the man and the woman stated that Alexander Kissi was in charge of the station, but that he was not there at the time. The agents reached Kissi by phone on March 6, 2008, at which time he took full responsibility for operation of the station.

On June 18, 2008, the New York Office issued Mr. Kissi a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter and proposing a forfeiture in the amount of $10,000. Mr. Kissi did not file a response to the NAL. So on September 11,2008, the Enforcement Bureau's Northeast Region issued a Forfeiture Order affirming the findings and assessing a $10,000 forfeiture.

That's when Kissi filed an appeal in which he claimed that he was out of town at the time the unlicensed transmissions took place. He also asserted that a construction worker had stolen his radio transmission equipment for the purpose of selling. Also that when the construction worker was doing equipment tests, he mistakenly left the equipment running for several days.

But in denying the appeal the FCC says that Kissi does not meet any of the three criteria that would allow the Bureau to consider his

Petition. This is because Kissi accepted responsibility for the unauthorized operation just five days after the violation. Therefore his new assertions regarding the theft of his radio transmission equipment directly contradicts his March 6, 2008, admission to an FCC agent that he was fully responsible for the operation of the station on February 28, 2008, and March 1, 2008.

Given that it finds this newly-presented information unsubstantiated and unreliable, the FCC says that it does not believe that further consideration of the Petition would serve the public interest. For these reasons, the FCC says it finds no basis for reconsideration and therefore affirms the finding in the Forfeiture Order. Its given Kissi the customary 30 days to pay the $10,000 fine or take the matter to further appeal. (FCC)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: MORE HAMS NEEDED FOR PROJECT BREAD WALK COMMUNICATIONS IN BOSTON

Eric Horwitz, KA1NCF, tells Newsline that there is still need for more volunteer ham radio operators for this years Boston, Massachusetts area Project Bread Walk for Hunger. The walk takes place Sunday, May 6th and is the 44th ouuting of the event.

Horowitz says that they need people to provide communications support for the Project Bread Staff and volunteers along the 20 mile route. If you will be in the Boston area on May 6th and are interested in helping out this year, go to www.mmra.org/wfh to log in and fill out the signup form. (KA1NCF)

**

HAMVENTION 2012: UNPAID RESERVED GREEN FLEA SPACES NOW AVAILABLE FOR RENT

Any reserved Dayton Hamvention Flea Market Green booth space that has not been paid for or payment armaments made have been released and are available for rental.

According to the Hamvention's Assistant Flea Market Chairman Stan Leeds, KC7EHJ, to find out what is available simply just take your web browser to tinyurl.com/flea-spaces-green. Then scroll to the bottom of the left side of the screen and click the "View Floor Plan" link. This will give a map of rented, reserved and available spaces. From this link you can also use the web portal for ordering a space if you so desire. (Hamventionc Remailer)

**

HAM VIDEO: DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO ON HAM RADIO NOW

The future of digital audio in VHF and UHF amateur radio is the subject of a video conversation between video producer Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, and

expert Jeff Parker, WA1WXL, who works for Motorola Solutions. The video presents a discussion of alternative digital audio systems available today and what may be coming to the ham radio market in the very near future. You can see it on line as Episode 7 of Pearce's Ham Radio New series. The URL is hamradionow.tv. (Various)

**

HAM RADIO PROMOTION: FREE POSTERS FROM THE RSGB

The Radio Society of Great Britain has made available a collection of high quality amateur radio promotional posters that can be used when demonstrating the hobby to the general public. These posters are in Adobe .PDF format are being provided free of charge to the amateur radio community for the purpose of promoting the hobby.

It should be noted that the posters do contain the RSGB logo and contact information making then basically more useful to UK hams than others. You can see them and download them at www.rsgb.org/posters. (RSGB)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE3RXA NAMED DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR RAC N/E. ONTARIO REGION

Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA of Ottawa is the new Deputy Director for Radio Amateurs of Canada, North East Ontario Region. By way of background, VE3XRA was employed by the Canadian Federal Government in various departments as diverse as Environmental issues to Foreign Affairs.

Bill Unger, VE3XT, is the North East Ontario Regional Director for the Canadian national society. He says that MacDonell will bring some iportent administration, innovation and management skills to Radio Amateurs of Canads. As such Unger says that he is looking forward to working with him as part of the North-East Ontario team. (RAC)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: AUTHOR ROBERT L. SHRADER, W6BNB -S.K.

The changing of the guard in amateur radio continues. This with the sad news that writer and author Robert L. Shrader, W6BNB, became a Silent Key on Wednesday, April 11th.

The author of numerous books and articles dealing with almost every area of communications, possibly his best known work was the textbook Electronic Communications, which was first published in 1959 and is currently in its 6th edition from McGraw Hill.

Robert Shrader, W5BNB, is survived by his wife Dorothy, W6ECU, a son Doug, KJ6TEJ, and daughter Patricia. At the time of his passing Robert Shrader was age 98. (PressDemocrat, others)

**

WORLDBEAT - JAPAN: ULTRA THIN FLEXIBLE BATTERIES EXPECTED IN 2013

In news from around the world, an ultra-thin flexible battery is on its way from Japan electronic giant NEC. According to reports, the company has worked for over a decade to design an organic battery is just one one-hundredth of an inch thick, can refresh a teeny screen 2,000 times and can be recharged in less than a minute.

In 2013, the battery is expected to be included in such items as enhanced credit and debit cards that display balances, electronic hotel keys, subway and train passes, and in much slimmer and lighter smart phones. The organic battery is also expected to pave the way for slender flat-screen displays and e-readers with a texture that feels like paper. (Kiplinger, CGC)

**

WORLDBEAT - CANADA: ONTARIO EXPECTED TO EXTEND HAM RADIO HAND HELD DEVICE LAW ANOTHER FIVE YEARS

Some good news for hams living in the Canadian Province of Ontario. You likely will be able to continue to operate mobile using a hand mic or other hand held device for at least another 60 months.

On April 16th the Ontario Ministry of Transportation posted a regulatory notice proposing a change to Ontario motor vehicle regulations that deal with the use of display screens and hand-held devices in motor vehicles. If approved it would extend the present exemption for licensed amateur radio operators for an additional five years.

As previously reported, Radio Amateurs of Canada has been lobbying for a permanent exemption for ham radio since this regulation was first enacted back in 2009. The current exemption was due to expire at the end of this calendar year. (VE3XT, RAC)

**

ON THE AIR: W4F COMMEMORATES 2010 NASHVILLE FLOODS

Back in the USA, Tennessee's Sumner County ARES team will be hosting a special event station W4F on Saturday, May 12th. This to commemorate the 2nd Anniversary of the 2010 Nashville Flood and give recognition to the amateur radio community that responded to that disaster.

W4F will be on the air from 10 am to 7 pm Central Standard Time. If you make contact, QSL via WR1Q at his call book address. More is on-line at specialevent.sumnerares.org (N4WRD)

**

DX

In DX, word that DL6UAA will once again be back on Mauritius as 3B8MM, but the length of his stay is unknown at this time. His on the air activity is usually on 160 through 10 meters using mostly CW. Some SSB and Digital will also be possible. QSL via DL6UAA, either via the Bureau or direct.

IRO, is expected to be in Uganda on a work assignment starting early May. He is hoping to get a license during the first week of his arrival. Once secured, listen out for him on CW on the upper HF bands, especially on 10 MHz. QSL routes include F8DFP, the French Cureau or direct with a self addressed envelope and include one I-R-C.

J28AA will once again be active as 6O3A from Somalia between May 25th and the 31st. His operation will be on SSB, RTTY and 50 MHz. QSL via K2PF.

F5VHJ will operate the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest from Senegak as 6W1RY this October. He plans to be on as a Single-Operator All-Band High-Power entry. QSL via F5VHJ, direct, by the Bureau or Logbook of the World.

Members of the Oceania DX Group be operational as YJ0VK from Efate Island, Vanuatu through May 5th. Activity will be on all HF bands 160-10 meters, with an emphasis on 30/17/12 meter bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via VK2CA, direct or by the Bureau.

Lastly DJ2EH is currently active as 9H3XX from Malta. The length of his stay is not known at this time but he has been heard on 30, 17, 12 and 6 meters using CW. QSL via DJ2EH.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: NORTH FLORIDA SCOUTING COUNCIL TO INAUGURATE KB4SA

And finally this week, we say congratulations to a group of scouts who have chartered a new scouting amateur radio station. Heres Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, with the details:

--

Hams in the Jacksonville area had been helping Scouts in the North Florida Council earn their Radio merit badges over the years.

But they were looking to do more for the Scouts and for ham radio.

Scott Roberts, KK4ECR, says a group of those hams finally decided to make a move.

"We approached one of the local Scout camps here in the area and talked to them about it and they said, 'Yes, we're all for it, let's do it,' Roberts says.

"And, basically, at that point, amateur radio club KB4SA was born."

The station is being set up at Camp Echockotee in Orange Park, Florida. It also has backing from Clay County Amateur Radio Emergency Service operators.

Roberts says KB4SA will be staffed by Scouters and Scouts looking to share the fun of the amateur radio hobby.

On Saturday, May 12, Roberts says the station will launch operations with a special event station from the camp. And he's looking to make contacts with.

"Other Scout clubs, with other DX stations that are around that can be available that day to talk to the Scouts and kind of make it a big hit for some of these Scouts that have been on the radio before and then some of those that have never been on the radio before," Roberts says.

You can find more about the KB4SA operation by going online to our website, arnewsline.org for a link (http://kb4sa.org) to information about the station and the frequencies.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

Our congratulations to The North Florida Council on its upcoming inauguration of amateur radio station KB4SA. If you hear the station on the air please be sure to give the scouts operating it a call and say hello. (N. FL. Council, NT3V)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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113. FCC Daily Digest 04/30/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-04-30 16:04:32 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-521275-2012.04.30-11.27.24--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 432
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 83 April 30, 2
012
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[...]

INNOVATION IN THE BROADCAST TELEVISION BANDS: ALLOCATIONS, CHANNEL SHARIN
G AND IMPROVEMENTS TO VHF. FCC Adopts New Rules Permitting TV Channel Sha
ring by Broadcasters; Enacts First Step Towards Freeing Up Spectrum Under I
ncentive Auction. (Dkt No. 10-235). Action by: the Commission. Adopted:
04/27/2012 by R&O. (FCC No. 12-45). MB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_pu
blic/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A2.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A3.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A4.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A3.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A4.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A2.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A3.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-45A4.txt

[...]

114. FCC Daily Digest 05/01/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-01 15:59:17 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-521342-2012.05.01-11.20.20--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 433
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

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[...]

Report No: AUC-87 (Auction 87) Released: 04/30/2012. WIRELESS TELECOMMUNI
CATIONS BUREAU GRANTS LOWER AND UPPER PAGING BANDS LICENSES. (DA No. 12-68
0). WTB . Contact: Kathy Harris at (202) 418-0132 http://hraunfoss.fcc.go
v/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-680A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-680A1.txt

[...]

115. FCC Daily Digest 05/03/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-03 15:41:34 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-521394-2012.05.03-11.04.38--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 434
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

>Subject: Daily Digest 05/03/2012

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 86 May 03, 201
2

[...]

JAMES WHEDBEE. Denied the Petition by LETTER. (DA No. 12-699). WTB htt
p://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-699A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-699A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-699A1.txt

[...]

116. The ARRL Letter for May 3, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-03 22:43:44 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120503183056.A3FD027499@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 435
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**************************************

May 3, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + On the Air: Annual Armed Forces Day Crossband Test Scheduled for
May 12
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- + ARRL Recognizes: Richard Paton Wins April QST Cover Plaque Award
- New QuickStats Poll Now Available on ARRL Website
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

Please note: There will be no ARRL Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news> on Thursday, May 18. The ARRL
Letter <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter> will be sent out on its regular
schedule that day.

==> + ON THE AIR: ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST SCHEDULED FOR
MAY 12
```

The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual Military/Amateur Radio Crossband Communications Test in celebration of the 62nd anniversary of Armed Forces Day. Although the actual Armed Forces Day is celebrated on the third Saturday in May -- May 19 in 2012 -- the AFD Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will be conducted on May 12 to prevent a conflict with the Dayton Hamvention®, scheduled for May 18-20. Read more here

<http://www.arrl.org/news/annual-armed-forces-day-crossband-test-scheduled-for-may-12>.

==> + ON THE AIR: 7O6T YEMEN DXPEDITION NOW UNDERWAY

The Daily DX is reporting that the 7O6T Yemen DXpedition began at 2100 UTC Monday, April 30 and will continue through 2100 UTC May 15. Yemen currently sits at #5 on DX Magazine's most wanted list, behind North Korea, Navassa, Bouvet and Heard Island. The ARRL DXCC Desk will review the 7O6T DXpedition's documentation before granting approval for the operation to count for DXCC credit.

The DXpedition will be on Socotra Island -- the largest island in the four-island Socotra archipelago located in the Indian Ocean -- about 353 kilometers south of the Yemen mainland. Socotra Island (AF-028) is also ranked #1 on the RSGB's Islands on the Air (IOTA) list, with only .3 percent of IOTA participants claiming it. Socotra also counts for one of the three Diamond DXCC Entities that make up today's Yemen (including Aden City and Yemen itself) from the 1937 DXCC List. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/7o6t-yemen-dxpedition-to-get-underway-today>.

==> + ON THE AIR: LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD MARKS 50,000 USERS

On May 1, Dragan Pavlovic, YT3PDT, completed his registration process for Logbook of The World (LoTW <http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>), becoming the 50,000th person to take advantage of the ARRL's online QSL confirmation system. According to ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, there are more than 3500 individuals from outside the US in the process of obtaining a digital certificate, and more than 1800 individuals inside the US who have started the certificate process, but not yet finished.

Earlier this year, the ARRL and CQ Communications announced <http://www.arrl.org/news/logbook-of-the-world-to-now-support-cq-awards> that the ARRL will provide support for CQ-sponsored operating awards by LoTW, beginning with the WPX Award. This project has entered the beta testing phase <http://www.arrl.org/news/wpx-awards-via-lotw-enters-beta-testing> with a select group of hams and, barring any unforeseen circumstances, is on track to be launched to the Amateur Radio community this month.

"Radio amateurs around the world consider LoTW to be the 'must have' awards and electronic confirmation system," Patton said. "We look forward to planned improvements and upgrades, and we are gratified that so many people have helped the system grow and become more and more useful."

==> + ARDF UPDATE: REGISTER NOW FOR THE USA ARDF CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The biggest event of the year is coming soon for fans of on-foot hidden transmitter hunting, also called foxtailing, radio-orienteering and Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF). Beginners and experts will gather in the mountains east of San Diego for the 12th Annual USA ARDF championships during the week and the weekend after Memorial Day. There they will test their abilities, refine their equipment and learn the best techniques from one another. Some will take home medals.

Activities will get under way on Wednesday and Thursday, May 30-31, when an optional two-day "training camp" will take place. This is a wonderful opportunity for immersion in bearing-taking and course strategy, with experts to help. Orienteering maps with elevation contours and color-coded terrain markings are new to many on-foot foxhunters, but the camp will instill confidence in using them to navigate in unfamiliar forests.

The official championships opening will take place on Friday, June 1. Friday's schedule also includes additional practice and equipment testing sessions, followed by a meeting for orientation and rules review. The 2 meter contest will take place in the woods on Saturday, and a banquet and awards ceremony will follow that evening. Sunday's schedule includes the 80 meter contest and another awards ceremony. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/ardf-update-register-now-for-the-usa-ardf-championships-in-southern-california>.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of April -- takes a look at an FCC request for comments in a Congressional study, new radar systems in the 1240-1300 MHz (23 cm) band, updated rules for ARRL volunteer card checkers, forthcoming ARRL publications, happenings at W1AW, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-45>.

==> + SECTION NEWS: NEW SECTION MANAGER APPOINTED IN VIRGIN ISLANDS

Fred Kleber, K9VV, has been appointed as Section Manager of the Virgin Islands Section as of May 1, 2012. Kleber, of Christiansted, St Croix, is taking the reins from John Ellis, NP2B, who is planning a move out of the Section soon. Ellis has been Section Manager of the Virgin Islands since 1996. Kleber has served as the Section Emergency Coordinator of the Virgin Islands this past year. Ellis recommended that Kleber fulfill his current term of office that continues until September 30, 2012. In response, Dave Patton, NN1N, Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager, consulted with ARRL Southeastern Division Director Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, and made the appointment effective on May 1.

Nomination petitions are now being accepted at ARRL Headquarters for any qualified ARRL member who would like to run for the next term of

office as the US Virgin Islands Section Manger. See the notice in the April 2012 (page 80) or May 2012 (page 76) issues of QST for details on how to nominate someone for this post.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Our days run as fast away as does the Sun <http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/176696>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers declined 38 points to 106.7 this week, while the average daily solar flux declined nearly 18 points to 116.2. The data reporting week runs from Thursday through the following Wednesday, so this comparison is between April 26-May 2, contrasted against April 19-25. The predicted solar flux is 115 for May 3-6, 110 on May 7-8, 115 on May 9, 130 on May 10-12, 135 on May 13, 140 on May 14-17, 135 on May 18-21, and 130, 125, 120, 115, and 110 on May 22-26. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on May 3-8, then 10, 15 and 8 on May 9-11, 5 on May 12-13, 8 on May 14-15, then 5, 8, 5, 8 and 10 on May 16-20, 15 on May 21-23, 8 on May 24, and then 5 on May 25-June 4. The NASA solar cycle prediction <http://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/predict.shtml> from the Marshall Space Flight Center has changed over the past month: The predicted maximum smoothed international sunspot number changed from 61 to 60, but still predicted for next spring 2013. The date of the new prediction is May 1, 2012 and last month's was on April 2, 2012. International sunspot numbers have much lower values than the sunspot numbers we use in this bulletin. The prediction is still for Solar Cycle 24 to be the lowest sunspot cycle in the past century. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, May 4. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Robert Herrick's Corinna's Gone A-Maying <http://www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/robert-herrick>.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: RICHARD PATON WINS APRIL QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the April QST Cover Plaque award is retired USCG Commander Richard Paton for his article "Radio's Role in the Titanic Disaster." Congratulations Richard! The QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll> . Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the May issue today.

==> NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- How do you participate in Field Day?
- Where do you store your QSL cards?
- How were you introduced to Amateur Radio?
- Do you suffer interference from your vehicle's electronics when you operate mobile?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the August 2012 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- May 4 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- May 5 -- Microwave Spring Sprint (local time)
- May 5-6 -- New England QSO Party; Indiana QSO Party; 7th Call Area QSO Party; 10-10 International Spring Contest (CW); ARI International DX Contest; Araucaria VHF Contest
- May 8 -- ARS Spartan Sprint
- May 9-10 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- May 11 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- May 12 -- FISTS Spring Sprint
- May 12-13 -- Nevada Mustang Roundup; EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party; VOLTA WW RTTY Contest; CQ-M International DX Contest; 50 MHz Spring Sprint
- May 13 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; WAB LF Phone Contest
- May 14 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- May 17 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- May 4-6 -- EMCOMMWEST <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/emcommwest-convention-1>, Reno, Nevada
- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>, Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee
- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electro
nics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 4 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,

Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

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<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#%21/edit-info-email_subscripti
ons>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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117. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1812 - May 4 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-04 09:00:14 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120504090004.05B4933C4E@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 436
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1812 - May 4 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1812 with a release date of May 4th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Antenna restrictions get worse in Belgium; A new whistling intruder is heard on 40 meters; U-K telecommunications regulator Ofcom issues new rules to prevent radio interference to the 2012 Olympics and Nebraska hams are lauded for their severe weather watch operations. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1812 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: ANTENNA RESTRICTIONS IN BELGIUM GET TIGHTER

If you think it's hard to put up an antenna in some locations here in the USA its nothing in comparison to what's happening in Belgium. That's where antenna restrictions have gotten even tighter than before and its happening with the government blessings. In fact, the rules are so stringent that it could force some hams off the air. Amateur Radio Newsline's Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, reports:

--

The Belgian national amateur radio society's website has posted an update on the restrictive antenna requirements recently imposed by the Flemish Government. The registration seems to apply to antennas that operate between 10 MHz through 10 Gigahertz, the amount of time a ham is actually transmitting and the power output of his or her station.

Going by the latest information, it would appear that Flemish amateurs who transmit less than 175 hours a year at 20 watts Effective Radiated Power or less, are required to submit forms to the government for each antenna they have. Multi-band antennas require multiple submissions of forms.

For instance, a tri-band Yagi antenna for 20, 15 and 10 meters requires three separate submissions. And if any changes to an antenna is made, all of the paperwork must be resubmitted.

But wait. It gets worse. If transmission are made from an antenna for more than 175 hours a year or with an Effective Radiated Power greater than 20 watts then it appears the bureaucracy involved is even more complex. You can find out just how bad it is at

tinyurl.com/NoticeForTxAntennas.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, reporting from Jonesboro, Arkansas,

--

According to what we are hearing, the Belgian national amateur radio society's known as the UBA has been attempting to get these strict antenna rules modified, but to date with little to no success. (Southgate, UBA Website)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC ACCUSES REPEATER THAT'S BEEN OFF THE AIR OVER A DECADE OF INTERFERENCE TO NEW RADAR SYSTEM

How can a repeater that's been off the air more than a decade and a half be creating interference to an aircraft radar tracking system that may not even be on the air yet? That's what a lot of hams want to know after educator Gordon West, WB6NOA, showed and partially read a warning letter on the Tuesday, May 1st edition of the netcast Ham Nation. A letter that he received from the FCC and one that appears to accuse him of operating a repeater on the 23 centimeter band that's causing interference to a radar system that the FCC won't even talk about. Here's what West had to say as he presented his warning letter to the thousands worldwide that were watching Ham Nation:

--

WB6NOA on Ham Nation: "...I always enjoy it when it say Certified Mail. Federal Communications Commission, Enforcement Bureau. And here it's a Warning Notice from the Commission that went to a slew of Southern California Repeater operators who own 1.2 GHz repeaters and I haven't had my 1200 MHz repeater on the air for fifteen years, yet they say that I operate on the air on 1.2 GHz and I'm interfering with the FAA radar.
--

We asked West why he thinks he received this letter regarding a repeater that's been off the air for years:

--

WB6NOA To Newsline: "The Warning Notice Federal Communications Commission Enforcement Bureau, Western Region, L.A. District Office, out of Cerritos (California) begins: `Warning Notice. You are receiving this warning notice because you operate an Amateur Radio Service repeater in the 23 centimeter band in the Los Angeles California county area. This office has received information that amateur radio repeaters have been causing harmful interference to Federal Aviation Administration operations in the 23 centimeter band at San Pedro, California.'

"The remaining paragraphs go on to scare the living daylights out of you that any further operation could create some real problems for both the FAA as well as the offending operator.

"Interesting though is that this letter went to many of us who at one time may have had a repeater, but the coordination is closed and the repeater has been off the air for me up to fifteen years yet we are still getting this notice an a pretty strong letter to come right out of nowhere indicating that we have been potentially interfering with the radar."

--

So what is it that the FCC says hams are interfering with? In reality, nobody but the government really knows for sure.

According to one report attributed to the ARRL, the Federal Aviation Administration is deploying a new generation of Common Air Route Surveillance Radar that operates in the 1240 to 1300 MHz of the 23 centimeter band. The Amateur Service allocation in this band is on a secondary basis, with aeronautical radionavigation and several other services primary in the United States Table of Frequency Allocations.

The FCC rules require that amateur stations operating in the 23 cm band may not cause harmful interference to stations in the Radionavigation-Satellite Service, the Aeronautical Radionavigation Service, the Earth Exploration Satellite Service or the space research service. Nobody is arguing with that. What is questionable are letters being sent to hams telling them that they are the source of interference to this new radar system even if they or their repeaters have not been on 23 centimeters in years.

If you are a repeater owner or 23 centimeter operator anywhere in the United States and have received a letter similar to that described by Gordon West, then we ask you to send us a copy along with any reply that you sent to the FCC. Our mailing address and e-mail will be presented at the end of this week's newscast. We promise to bring you a follow-up in a future Amateur Radio Newsline report.

Note: You can see and hear WB6NOA describe the FCC Warning Notice he received on Ham Nation episode #46 which can be viewed or downloaded at twit.tv/hn (ARNewsline(tm))

**

INTRUDER WATCH: WHISTLING SIGNAL FOUND ON 40 METER BAND

Alex Cete, OZ9AEC, in Ribe, Denmark, says that has found a strange whistling signal in the 40 meter band. It sounds like this:

--

Audio of whistling signal.

--

The strange whistle-like signal was received on 7.013 MHz using GQRX software defined radio receiver and a Funcube Dongle equipped with a shortwave converter. The signal appears to be amplitude modulated with suppressed lower side band.

Amateurs who have heard it are uncertain of its origin, but some suspect it might be from an ionosonde. Others speculate that it could be a new form of digital numbers station. (Southgate)

**

2012 OLYMPICS: UK REGULATOR OFCOM ISSUES PROPOSED ANTI-INTERFERENCE RULES FOR 2012 OLYMPIC GAME VENUES

UK Telecommunications regulator Ofcom have issued a notice dealing with proposed regulations that will enable prompt enforcement action for interference cases that affect the 2012 Olympics. One that affects every citizen that operates two way radio gear or even unintentional radiators.

The Proposed Regulations set out a requirement that applies to apparatus in relation to a Games' "event zone." Where the use of a given apparatus does not meet requirements of causing zero interference to communications within an Olympic venue Ofcom may serve on the person in possession of the apparatus a notice prohibiting its use. Breach of such a notice would be considered to be a criminal offence. The draft regulations designate 25 to 35 km radius around all major venues across the UK, including football stadiums, where enhanced enforcement could apply.

The announcement follows last week's Ofcom announcement of restrictions to the 70cm, 2.3 and 3.4GHz amateur bands. The new proposal would apply to anyone, ham or non-ham, within the range of the Olympic venues. (RSGB, others)

**

2012 OLYMPICS: RSGB SAYS GAMES A GOOD WAY TO PUBLICIZE HAM RADIO

Meantime, the Radio Society of Great Britain calls the upcoming Olympics a great chance for ham radio to show its colors. Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, has that part of the story from Nottingham in the U-K:

--

The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games provide an outstanding opportunity to publicize amateur radio. To that end, the RSGB negotiated a very limited number of special prefixes starting with 2 Oscar One Two followed by a single letter suffix.

The idea is for these calls are given an extensive airing over the Olympic period this summer. Special stations are already planned for London, 2O12L, and Wales, 2O12W, and there will be a special callsign for the National Radio Centre.

Groups in Scotland and Northern Ireland are encouraged to take advantage of the special callsign secured for their region.

I'm Jeramy Boot, G4NJH.

--

If you are a ham radio group in Scotland or Northern Ireland and are hearing this newscast, you can apply for use of one of the special Olympic call signs by contacting Bob Whelen by e-mail to G3PJT (at) btinternet (dot) com. (GB2RS)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W5TXR repeater serving Schertz Texas.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO POLITICS: SEN. GRASSLEY LIFTS HOLD ON FCC COMMISSION LICENSEES

The FCC may soon get two new commissioners and be back up to its full complement of five members. This following an announcement by Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa, that he is lifting his hold on the two nominees, Jessica Rosenworcel and Ajit Pai.

Grassley has been seeking documentation from the commission on an issue unrelated to the nominees. He specifically wanted to know about about interference concerns to the Global Positioning System from the proposed LightSquared wireless broadband project.

While the documents he's obtained so far raise more questions for him, Grassley said in a statement he intends to lift the hold on the two FCC nominees, but also continue his investigation into both the FCC and Lightsquared.

If confirmed, Rosenworcel would take the seat of former Commissioner Michael Copps who resigned in December, while Ajit would replace former Commissioner Meredith Baker. Baker left the agency in May 2011 to join Comcast. (RW)

**

RESCUE RADIO: NEBRASKA HAMS LAUDED FOR SKYWARN SEVERE WEATHER WATCH

When normal communications systems in Nebraska were taken off line by a recent spate severe storms and tornadoes, local officials had no way of calling of getting damage assessment. That's where ham radio operators came to the rescue as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP.

--

Tom Reis is a Skywarn coordinator for the National Weather Service. He says that radio amateurs in Nebraska are a valuable asset who can get out messages that help save lives.

In a interview with the Atlantic, Reis said that the National Weather Service recognizes the importance of accurate ground information. He says that there are a variety of methods to get that information to them and that one of those is via amateur radio.

According to the NWS, ham radio operators can confirm sightings of severe weather as it approaches and offer damage assessment after the storm passes. This while at the same time providing communications support to local officials.

Reis says that this shows how amateur radio operators provide a service for their community in a variety of different ways. He also notes that it doesn't take much to become an amateur radio operator and people of all ages enjoy the hobby.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, where we have mostly dust storms in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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It should be noted that there is a big difference between trained radio amateurs in the SKYWARN program and the so-called storm chasers that we have been hearing so much about in newscasts and reality TV shows these days. Unlike storm chasers who make a living photographing severe weather incidents or are members of the general public who are simply out for a thrill, SKYWARN associated hams are educated weather observers. Their job is not to go racing after tornadoes as do storm chasers. Rather they are unpaid volunteer radio amateurs who keep their eyes and ears open for severe weather outbreaks. They then report what they see and hear via ham radio to the National Weather Service. The NWS takes this information and includes it into forecasts that invariably save lives. (Atlantic, ARNewsline)

**

RESCUE RADIO: DOCUMENTARY TELLS STORY OF BROADCASTERS ROLE IN MISSOURI TORNADOES

A University of Alabama instructor has produced an award-winning, eight-minute documentary on the role of local television broadcasters in saving lives during the massive tornadoes that hit Tuscaloosa and Joplin, Missouri last year.

Chandra Clark, an instructor in the department of telecommunications and film, worked with director Scott Hodgson of the University of Oklahoma to make "Tornado Emergency: Saving Lives."

Clark said the inspiration for the documentary came as a response the Federal Communications Commission's proposal to sell off a large portion of the broadcast spectrum. Clark said the sales could limit some of the resources broadcasters have to reach the public.

The mini-documentary has already garnered a prestigious Telly Award. The film was also awarded a Best of Competition Award by the Broadcast Education Association's Festival of Media Arts. (TVB)

**

RESCUE RADIO: UK RAYNET AND APCO-UK SIGN MOU

The United Kingdom's RAYNET group and British APCO have signed a Memorandum of Understanding. One that recognizes the common objectives of both organizations in the promotion and influencing of public safety, civil contingency, information management and communications

In the Memorandum of Understanding RAYNET and APCO set out a Schedule of Agreements which sets out some of the ways in which both organizations will work together. This includes networking opportunities and invitations to attend management meetings; website content sharing; joint working and sharing of publications; and engaging RAYNET in regional and national events.

RAYNET which is an acronym for the U-K based Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network is a national voluntary communications service provided for the community by licensed radio amateurs. It was formed in 1953 following Great Britain's East Coast floods, when radio amateurs provided much of the emergency communications. (RAYNET)

**

ENFORCEMENT: ANOTHER UNLICENSED FLORIDA BROADCASTER FINED $20000

Another unlicensed broadcaster in Florida has been dinged $20,000 by the FCC. In a Forfeiture Order, the FCC has told Robens Cheriza to pay the fine for operation of an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 107.3 MHz in the city of West Palm Beach.

Back on February 1st, the Enforcement Bureau's Miami Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture in the amount of $20,000 to Cheriza. Cheriza never filed a response to the proposed fine. So based on the information before it the forfeiture was affirmed with Cheriza given the customary 30 days to pay up or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

HAM RADIO ON THE NET: RFINDER FOR APPLE PORTABLE PRODUCTS RELEASED

W2CYK has announced the latest platform release of RFinder -The World Wide Repeater Directory. The new version is designed for Apple iPhone, iPad and iPod users and is available for immediate download from the Apple App Store.

Previous versions of RFinder run on Android based gear and can be found on-line at web.rfinder.net. The World Wide Repeater Directory is also accessible from RT Systems radio programmers and via CHIRP on Windows, Linux and Macintosh with the same user/password you use on handheld

devices. (W2CYK)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: N8CGM'S CHOIR TAKES 3RD PLACE IN SWEET ADELINES CONTEST

Some names in the news. Members of Susan Scott, N8CGM's chorus known as the Cincinnati Sound now wear 3d place overall medals. This from the recent Region 4 Sweet Adelines contest held at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center. The quartets competed on Fri April 19th and the choirs on Saturday the 20th. (OH-KY-IN A.R.S)

**

MAMES IN THE NEWS: F6HBR FIRST FRENCH HAM TO BE ISSUED A THAI LICENSE

Meantime, Alain Burgnon, F6HBR, appears to be the first French radio amateur to be granted a Thailand license.

Burgnon has been living in Thailand since 2006. After seven years of negotiations between France and Thailand, a reciprocal agreement was signed in December 2011. As a result, F6HBR was granted the call HS0ZKG on April 25th.

A second French ham is living in Thailand - Gerald Begards, F8DEG. He is expected to be the second French ham that will be granted a Thai call. (F5NQL)

**

HAMVENTION NEWS: TECH LICENSE CLASS AND TESTING AT HAMVENTION 2012

A Technician level Ham Radio Class will be held concurrent with the Dayton Hamvention on Saturday, May 19th.

The session runs from 9AM until 4PM Eastern Daylight Time and will be held at the Hara Arena Hamvention venue. Immediately following the conclusion of the class a team of Volunteer Examiners will be on-hand to administer the Technician class exam.

You do need to pre-register for the class and yes, there is homework. Info on what's in the class and how to enroll can be found at tinyurl.com/hamvention-license-class.

The class will be again sponsored by Mitch Stern, W1SJ. If you have any questions please contact him at w1sj (at) art (dot) net. (W1SJ)

**

HAMVENTION NEWS: WEAK SIGNAL DINNER AT HAMVENTION 2012

And Weak Signal VHF, UHF and Microwave enthusiasts are invited to attend the 17th VHF Weak Signal Group banquet. This annual event will be held concurrent with the Dayton Hamvention on Friday evening May 18th, at the Dayton Grand Hotel in Dayton, Ohio. The evenings featured

speaker will be Dick Hanson, K5AND, and his presentation on the 2011 PJ6D Six Meter DXpedition to Saba Island. Cost is for the banquet is $35 per person and advance reservations are required. Prepaid reservation requests should be sent to Tony Emanuele WA8RJF, 7156 Kory Court, Concord Township, Ohio 44077. For more information you can e-mail Tony to WA8RJF (at) ARRL (dot) net. (WA8RJF)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

ELECTRONIC THEFT: CALIFORNIA COPPER THIEVES EXPAND TO FIBER OPTICS

Copper thieves in California have expanded to stealing glass as well. In this case we are talking about glass as in fiber optic cable. In one case some AT&T customers in the city of Alpine experienced disruptions in phone and Internet service after thieves stole copper and fiber optic wiring from underground lines.

According to Sgt. Joseph Passalacqua, the thieves took about 75 feet of 600 strand fiber optic cable along with the copper wiring. To accomplish this the robbers climbed into a manhole and cut into the underground pipes. An AT&T spokesperson said that three conduits carrying fiber optic or copper cables were damaged and that the vandalism affected some cellphone users as well.

Sergant Passalacqua said that Internet service was down at both the sheriff's Alpine and Pine Valley substations, but that public safety was not affected.

The theft of copper wiring and other metals like bronze and aluminum has proliferated over the years. Thieves commonly steal the precious metals in order to sell it to recyclers. However the theft of fiber optic lines is something new and could signal a developing market for this kind of product. (Published news reports)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: 5 MHZ PROPAGATION STUDY RELEASED IN UK

A paper entitled Comparison of Propagation Predictions and Measurements for Mid-Latitude HF Near-Vertical Incidence Sky Wave Links at 5 MHz has just been published in the peer-reviewed, academic journal, Radio Science. Authored by Dr. Marcus Walden, G0IJZ, the paper compares near-vertical incidence skywave or NVIS measurements from the U-K 5 MHz

beacon network with High Frequency propagation predictions using VOACAP and ASAPS software. Further information, including a link to the paper, can be found at tinyurl.com/7ahx8vt. (GB2RS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT PUTS OUT FIRST CALL FOR SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

AMSAT has put out a first call for papers to be presented at the 2012 AMSAT Annual Meeting and Space Symposium to be held in Orlando, Florida.

Proposals for papers, presentations and poster presentations are invited on any topic of interest to the amateur satellite community. Abstracts and papers including a tentative title should be sent to Dan Schultz, N8FGV, by e-mail n8fgv (at) amsat (dot) org.

The 2012 AMSAT Annual Meeting and Space Symposium takes place the weekend of October 26th to the 28th at the Holiday Inn, Orlando Airport Hotel. (AMSAT, N8FGV)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: DELFI C3 DO-64 CELEBRATES 4 YEARS IN SPACE

The Delfi-C3, DO-64 satellite has celebrated 4 years on-orbit. The 3-unit CubeSat, developed by the Technical University of Delft in the Netherlands was launched on April 28, 2008. The nanosatellite has since performed technology demonstration experiments for the space industry in the Netherlands. It still transmits its telemetry and measurement data which can be received using simple amateur radio equipment and using the RASCAL software. An in-depth article on the tiny bird is on-line in Google translated English at tinyurl.com/Delfi-C3-4th-Anniversary. (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE NEW CUBESAT LAUNCHER DEVELOPED AT NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

The Space Systems Academic Group at the US Naval Postgraduate School has developed the NPSCubeSat Launcher or NPSCuL.

NPSCuL is described as an auxiliary payload platform. It is designed to allow multiple CubeSats to be launched aboard rockets as secondary payloads. This means that the launch rocket would be able to carry satellites in onboard space that would otherwise be unused.

NPSCuL can accommodate up to 24 CubeSats in a single Secondary Payload Adapter. On reaching the desired orbit spring-loaded doors will release the satellites one-by-one.

A first flight is planned for August 2012 which will carry 11 CubeSats. (ANS)

**

RADIO SPORTS: ARRL CREATES NEW VHF - UHF CONTESTS

In radiosports news, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee have approved a rule change for ARRL VHF+ contests effective beginning in 2013.

One of the most controversial changes is the creation of a Single-Op FM-only category. Here, operators will be limited to 100 Watts maximum output in the FM mode on the 50, 144, 222 and 440 MHz bands. Exact rules have not been announced so it's not yet known if the contest will have restricted frequencies or if it will be a free, anything goes competition.

Also created by the committee is a new Single-Operator category for stations permitted up to 100 Watts PEP on 50 and 144 MHz, 50 Watts PEP on 432 MHz. This for the more traditional contesting modes.

These changes will apply to the January, June, and September contests -again, beginning with the 2013 January VHF Sweepstakes. It should be noted that past attempts to create FM only contests have not succeeded. This is believed primarily because both the use of repeaters and of national calling channels where all the FM action is, have been declared off-limits. (VHF Reflector, ARRL)

**

DX

In DX, ZS6JR and ZS6DJD should be operating from Mozambique for seven to ten days starting on the 3th or 4th of May. Operations will take place next to a small lake 400 km north of the capital using vertical antennas and a Hex Beam on 40 through 10 meters. Callsigns have not been announced. QSL as directed on the air.

An international team of operators will be active as 7-Oh-6-T from Socotra Island through May 17th. They plan to have six stations on the air at any given time. Activity will be on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via UA3DX.

A group of operators from Japan will be operational from the Maldives between May 11th and the 16th. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via their home callsigns, either direct or via the bureau.

E51WL in the North Cook Islands has been heard on 6 meters. Keep an ear open for him just before 2300 UTC on or around 50.120 MHz. QSL as directed on the air

Members of the Crimean Contest Radio Club will be active from the Ukrane as EM67J through May 15th. Their operation is to commemorate the 67th anniversary of the "Victory in the Great Patriotic War." QSL's via K2PF. And less we forget, electronic logbooks will be upload to Logbook To The World in late May or early June.

Lastly, DL4HG and DL5XAT will be on the air as 9H3OG and 9H3TX, respectively, from Malta's Gozo Island between November 21st and the 26th. Their operation will include the CQ WW DX CW Contest on November 24th and 25th using the callsign 9H3TX. QSL 9H3OG via DL4HG and 9H3TX via DL5XAT.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: FAA MAY LOOK AGAIN AT BANNED RF DEVICES ON PLANES

And finally this week, using your laptop, iPad or Kindle during a commercial U-S flight might become a reality in the not to distant future. This with word that the Federal Aviation Administration may be willing to take a second look at it's policy on electronics usage aboard airplanes. Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, reports:

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While some airlines permit very limited use of wireless devices one an aircraft is at altitude, actual availability is quite limited. But according to a recent report credited to columnist Nick Bilton and the New York times, the FAA has decided to take a updated look at the use of personal electronics on planes.

The report continues by quoting FAA spokesperson Laura Brown. She told the press that with the advent of new and evolving electronic technology, and because the airlines have not conducted the testing necessary to approve the use of new devices, the FAA may be taking a fresh look at the use of personal electronic devices, other than cell phones, on aircraft.

Currently, airline passengers must turn off any electronic device that can transmit or receive a radio signal that cannot be disabled. While, the FAA indicates that it is open to testing new devices, it will more than likely be a long road before any substantive changes take place. This is because every airline giving thought to allow such operations would first have to test one of each version of a device on each of model of every aircraft in its fleet.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU.

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Whatever happens, the FAA has already been quoted as saying that it will not budge on its policy of not permitting use of mobile phones during a flight. And don't even consider trying to use a ham radio H-T on a commercial airliner. Even if that one were lifted by the FAA the domestic U-S airlines would likely keep a ban in place on the use of ham gear and other two way radios on board their flights. (Tech Trends)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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118. FCC Daily Digest 05/04/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-04 15:49:43 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-521435-2012.05.04-11.10.36--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 437
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 87 May 04, 201
2

[...]

ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF REGULATORY FEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012. Propo
sed to collect $339,844,000 in regulatory fees for Fiscal Year 2012. (Dkt N
o. 12-116). Action by: the Commission. Comments Due: 05/31/2012. Reply
Comments Due: 06/07/2012. Adopted: 05/03/2012 by NPRM. (FCC No. 12-48).
OMD http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-48A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-48A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-48A1.txt

[...]

119. Re: FCC Daily Digest 05/04/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-05 20:16:04 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <cqb9q79kb4cc0sc0a9eadp00tepvtghhon@4ax.com>
Source record: 438

On Fri, 4 May 2012 11:49:43 EDT, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:

>
>(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)
>
>Daily Digest
>
>Vol. 31 No. 87 May 04, 201
>2
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> [...]
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> ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF REGULATORY FEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012. Propo
>sed to collect $339,844,000 in regulatory fees for Fiscal Year 2012. (Dkt N
>o. 12-116). Action by: the Commission. Comments Due: 05/31/2012. Reply
>Comments Due: 06/07/2012. Adopted: 05/03/2012 by NPRM. (FCC No. 12-48).
>OMD http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-48A1.doc
>http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-48A1.pdf
>http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-48A1.txt
>
> [...]

In this document, only this line affects amateur radio:
>Amateur Vanity Call Signs (per call sign) (47 CFR part 97) 1.50
That's $1.50 per year, or $15.00 for the ten year license term.
The current fee is $14.20.

73 de Dick Grady, AC7EL
To respond to me privately, email to:
<My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

120. The ARRL Letter for May 10, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-10 21:36:57 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120510180412.886FE26DBD0@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 439
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**************************************

May 10, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- + End of an Era: Heathkit Educational Systems Closes Up Shop
- + Amateur Radio in Space: Three Hams Venture to ISS Next Week
- + BSA to Offer Morse Code Interpreter Strip
- On the Air: Coast Guard to Join Armed Forces Crossband Communications
Test
- Solar Update
- DXCC News: DXCC Desk Approves DXpeditions to Yemen and Somalia
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

Please note: There will be no ARRL Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news> on Thursday, May 17. The ARRL
Letter <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter> will be sent out on its regular
schedule that day.

==> + DAYTON HAMVENTION: ARRL EXPO OFFERS ACTIVITIES FOR THE DIYER
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When the ARRL EXPO comes to the Dayton Hamvention® May 18-20, it will bring activities for almost every Amateur Radio activity under the Sun. From radiosport to card checking to scouting to the Youth Lounge, every radio amateur will definitely find something to suit his or her interests. This year -- in addition to our popular kit building station -- watch how "makers" and "hackers" are using Amateur Radio in "Do It Yourself" projects on the DIY Stage in the ARRL EXPO, and hear from hams who are doing-it-themselves. Today's Amateur Radio innovators will demonstrate a variety of creative projects and cool technology right

before your eyes! Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-expo-offers-activities-for-the-diyer>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC SEEKS HIGHER VANITY CALL SIGN FEE

The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on May 4, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. Currently, a vanity call sign costs $14.20 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if the FCC plan goes through, will go up to $15 for 10 years, an increase of 80 cents. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-higher-vanity-call-sign-fee>.

==> + FCC NEWS: SENATE APPROVES TWO NEW FCC COMMISSIONERS, COMMISSION TO BE AT FULL STRENGTH

Six months after President Barack Obama nominated Jessica Rosenworcel and Ajit Varadaraj Pai to the Federal Communications Commission, the Senate confirmed their appointments on Monday, May 7. Rosenworcel, a Democrat, fills the seat vacated by Michael Copps who retired from the Commission earlier this year; her term runs through June 30, 2015. Pai, a Republican, replaces Meredith Attwell Baker, who left the FCC in June 2010; his term runs through June 30, 2016. Once Rosenworcel and Pai are sworn in, the FCC will be at its full complement of five Commissioners.

According to various reports, the two will be sworn in by the end of this week. Their nominations had been held up since December in an unrelated dispute between the FCC and Senator Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) over agency approval of LightSquared's wireless application. When Grassley received the sought-after documents two weeks ago, he lifted a hold on the nominations. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/senate-approves-two-new-fcc-commissioners-commissio n-to-be-at-full-strength>.

==> + END OF AN ERA: HEATHKIT EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS CLOSES UP SHOP

For the second time since 1992, Heathkit Educational Services has shuttered its doors. Rumors of the legendary kit-building company's demise were posted on QRZ.com, with several readers bringing the news to the attention of the ARRL. In August 2011, Heathkit announced it was returning to the kit building business, and in September, that it would once again be manufacturing Amateur Radio kits. The ARRL tried to reach Heathkit to confirm that the company is still in business, but their phone and fax numbers have a continuous busy signal, and e-mails to the company have gone unanswered. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/heathkit-educational-systems-closes-up-shop>.

==> + AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: THREE HAMS VENTURE TO ISS NEXT WEEK

NASA will televise <http://www.nasa.gov/ntv> the launch and docking of the next mission to the International Space Station (ISS

<http://www.nasa.gov/station>), scheduled for May 14. NASA Flight Engineer Joseph Acaba, KE5DAR, and his two Russian crewmates, Soyuz Commander Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, and Flight Engineer Sergei Revin, RN3BS, are completing their training as they undergo Soyuz spacecraft fit. Live NASA TV coverage <http://www.nasa.gov/ntv> of the Soyuz TMA-04M spacecraft launch from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan begins at 9 PM CDT on Monday, May 14 (0200 UTC May 15), with the launch scheduled for 10:01 PM CDT (0301 UTC).

The trio will arrive at the station May 16, joining Expedition 31 Commander Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, of the Russian Federal Space Agency, Flight Engineer Don Pettit, KD5MDT, of NASA and Flight Engineer Andrei Kuipers, PI9ISS, of the European Space Agency, who have been aboard the ISS since December 2011. Padalka, Acaba and Revin will transition to the Expedition 32 crew in July and return to Earth in mid-September. You can watch live online <http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/nasatv/index.html> on the NASA TV Public and Media channels, or on your television set. Contact your local provider for the NASA TV channel in your area. Click here <http://www.arrl.org/news/three-hams-venture-to-iss-next-week> for a complete schedule of televised events.

==> + BSA TO OFFER MORSE CODE INTERPRETER STRIP

For many years, Boy Scouts and Scouters have been able to earn an interpreter strip to wear on their uniforms. This strip -- worn on the uniform above the right pocket -- denotes proficiency in a foreign language or sign language. Each language has its own strip (with the name of the language embroidered in that language), and some Scouts and Scouters wear more than one strip. Now those hams involved with the Boy Scouts can show their proficiency in Morse code with a Morse code interpreter strip (with M-O-R-S-E spelled out in Morse code). Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/bsa-to-offer-morse-code-interpreter-strip>.

==> ON THE AIR: COAST GUARD TO JOIN ARMED FORCES CROSSBAND COMMUNICATIONS TEST

The US Coast Guard will be joining the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines in the 2012 Armed Forces Crossband Test, scheduled for May 12. In addition to the Coast Guard station, five Army stations, three Air Force stations and six Navy/Marine Corps stations will be on the air to celebrate the 62nd anniversary of Armed Forces Day. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/coast-guard-to-join-armed-forces-crossband-communications-test>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Flashing and frolicsome under the Sun <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jzf_yDVbKlA>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily solar flux for the past week rose slightly, 116.2 to 119, but the average daily sunspot numbers declined more than 14 points --

about 13 percent -- to 92.6. The predicted solar flux for the near term is quite a bit higher than the average for the past week: Solar flux on May 10-13 is 130, then 135 on May 14-17, and then it drops sharply to 110 on May 18-22, 115 on May 23-25, 110 on May 26, and then down to 105 on May 27-31. The predicted planetary A index is 22, 15, 10, 8 and 5 on May 10-14, 8 on May 15-16, 5 on May 17-18, 8 and 10 on May 19-20, 15 on May 21-23, 8 on May 24, and 5 on May 25-June 4. The predicted planetary A index of 22 on May 10 looks like a continuation of activity from May 9, which resulted in a planetary A index of 24 and a mid-latitude A index of 19. This was triggered by a pair of coronal mass ejections and solar wind stream, all from sunspot group 1476, which is now swinging into prime geo-effective position. This means it is very close to the center of the visible solar disk, pointing emissions straight toward Earth. It could be the source for more geomagnetic upset. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, May 11. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Ralph Vaughan Williams' Sea Symphony <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_Symphony> (III Scherzo The Waves), taken from Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass> (Book XIX <http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass/Book_XIX>, After the Sea-Ship <http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass/Book_XIX#After_the_Sea-Ship>).

==> DXCC NEWS: DXCC DESK APPROVES DXPEDITIONS TO YEMEN AND SOMALIA

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that the current 7O6T DXpedition to Yemen and the February 2012 6O3A DXpedition to Somalia have been approved for DXCC credit. "If you had cards that were recently rejected for the 6O3A operation, please send an e-mail <dxcc@arrl.org> to the ARRL DXCC Desk," Moore said. "Please note that due to extremely heavy e-mail, DXCC staff may not respond to your message. Once your record is updated, results will appear in Logbook of The World (LoTW <https://p1k.arrl.org/lotwuser/default>) accounts or in the live, daily DX standings <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc/>. Due to a backup on DXCC e-mail, DXCC staff will make the corrections to accounts, but may not respond directly to messages about this."

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- May 11 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- May 12 -- FISTS Spring Sprint
- May 12-13 -- Nevada Mustang Roundup; EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party; VOLTA WW RTTY Contest; CQ-M International DX Contest; 50 MHz Spring Sprint
- May 13 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; WAB LF Phone Contest
- May 14 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- May 17 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next week:

- May 19 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- May 19-20 -- His Majesty King of Spain Contest (CW); EU PSK DX
Contest; Baltic Contest
- May 21 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- May 21-22 -- Aegean RTTY Contest
- May 23-24 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee
- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electro
nics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah

- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 4 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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121. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1813 - May 11 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-11 09:00:11 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120511090003.0659433C98@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 440
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1813 - May 11 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1813 with a release date of May 11th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. High schoolers in California send a ham radio balloon to the edge of space; Israeli hams protest on-line against DXCC credit for the 7O6T operation from Yemen; W5KUB to again netcast live from the Dayton Hamvention and the latest on the Amateur Radio Direction Finding Championship coming to San Diego. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1813 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO NEAR SPACE: ANACAPA HIGH ALTITUDE BALLOON SOARS TO NEAR 112000 FEET

We're not sure if it's a new world altitude record for a ham radio equipped high altitude balloon, but members of the Anacapa Near Space Exploration Club at California's Anacapa School are celebrating the recent success of their second near space probe. One that reached an altitude of almost 112,000 feet. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, has the rest of the story:

--

Balloon launch team: "5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1 - Go!!"

--

That's the sound of a group of teenage near-space adventurers lofting a high altitude balloon that would soon soar above California's central coast and then eastward toward the states central valley.

Called Anacapa Amateur High-Altitude Balloon 2, a student team from the Anacapa School launched two payload capsules tethered to a weather balloon on Saturday, May 5th. Equipped with GPS, atmospheric sensors, high-definition video and still cameras, a television transmitter and a Geiger counter, the payload downlinked live data, video and images during its ascent.

Anacapa Amateur High-Altitude Balloon 2 was designed and built entirely by students that included Alex Carlson, KJ6UGF and Genevieve Hatfield, KJ6UGH. They along with non-hams Grayson Baggiolini, Julio Bernal and

Christian Eckert made up the construction and launch team that was under the supervision of faculty advisor Levi Maaia, K6LCM.

--

K6LCM: "Two years ago in September of 2010, one of my students, Connor Proctor and I got together and were talking about some of the headlines we had seen on-line about high altitude balloons and decided that it would be a neat project to bring to the Anacapa School in Santa Barbara. So we brought it to the Head Master of the school and said we want to do this. He said what an awesome idea and was behind us 110% as we sought funding for the project and put together a small team of students to spearhead the first launch."

--

As the balloon climbed through the thinning air, the decreasing atmospheric pressure caused it to expand nearly ten times in diameter. On reaching its apex above California's Central Valley, the balloon burst, sending the payload back to mother Earth under the canopy of a small parachute. By reaching an altitude of 111,814 feet, this flight shattered the record of the group's own first balloon flight by more than 20,000 feet.

Over the coming weeks the students expect to thoroughly document the flight and analyze the collected data. More information, including photos and a condensed version of the in-flight video can be found online at www.anacapaschool.org/ansec

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

And less we forget to mention, the student group has been working on this high altitude ham radio balloon project since September of 2011. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

SCHOOL HAM HAPPENINGS: UK SCHOOL TO HOLD D-STAR SPECIAL EVENT WANTS CONTACTS

A United Kingdom school in the village of Gresham will be hosting a special event station on May 23rd using the D-STAR digital network. The event is specifically for children age 6 to 11 and will use the callsign GB2GVS which stands for Gresham Village School.

Andy Johnston, 2E0AIV, is the event coordinator. He says that they have already arranged link-ups with schools in Northern Ireland, the United States and England, but are looking for more countries and schools to participate. If anyone is interested, they can contact Andy via e-mail to 2e0avi (at) 2e0aiv (dot) co (dot) uk.

**

ENFORCEMENT NEEDED: RADIO MYANMAR INTERFERENCE ON 40 METERS

The South African Radio League reports that Radio Myanmar has been found to be broadcasting illegally on 7.110 MHz. The station is transmitting using full carrier AM from 15:30 UTC every day and is causing interference on South Africa's publicized region wide emergency communications frequency.

According to the South African Radio League, steps are being taken to issue a formal objection but this takes time and the correct procedures need to be followed. Meantime, South Africa's Hamnet emergency communications response group has sent an official complaint directly to Radio Myanmar and requested that it move frequency. (SARL)

**

DX NEWS: 7O6T YEMEN OPERATION APPROVED FOR DXCC OVER PROTESTS OF ISRAELI HAMS

Over complaints that were voiced on QRZ.com and other public websites by some Israeli hams, the ARRL DXCC Awards Desk has approved the current 7O6T operation from Yemen for DXCC credit. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, is here with more:

--

A small but vocal number of Israeli hams have been arguing on-line that the 7O6T from Yemen should not be allowed for DXCC because the operators refused to make contact with 4X and 4Z prefix hams. They note that Israel has no banned countries list and as such refusal of the 7O6T operators to contact them was at least a violation of the principals and the spirit of the DXCC program.

While its true that Israel has no banned countries list, many of its neighbors consider themselves technically in a state of war with the Jewish state and have been since its creation through partitioning following World War 2. As such these nations ban hams operating under their jurisdiction from making contact with their counterparts in Israel.

The 7O6T operation reportedly has the support of Yemen's Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Radio and the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology. As such it is a pretty good guess that not recognizing Israeli stations was a decree imposed by Yemen on the 7O6T operating team and not one of their own choosing.

At airtime, it's not known if any of the protesting Israeli hams contacted the ARRL DXCC Desk regarding this issue of if it was just another of those cyberspace only arguments. Either way it came to an abrupt end on Saturday, May 5th. That's when ARRL Awards Branch Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, issued a news release stating that the current 7O6T operation from Yemen along with the earlier 6O3A DXpedition to Somalia have been granted DXCC approval. As such, both will be counted for

DXCC credit.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

The 7O6T adventure began at 2100 UTC Monday, April 30th and has been causing massive pile-ups wherever the operators show up. It will continue through 2100 UTC on May 15th.

Up until this operation began, Yemen was ranked as number 5 in the DX Magazine's list of most wanted entities behind North Korea, plus Navassa, Bouvet and Heard Islands.

We will have more DX news later on in this week's Amateur Radio Newsline report. (ARNewsline, QRZ.com, ARRL DXCC Desk)

**

RESTRUCTURING: 6 METER EXTENSION GRANTED IN PORTUGAL

Now that terrestrial analog TV has been switched off in Portugal, the National Communications Authority has agreed to extend the 6 meter band for radio amateurs. As a result, Portuguese Category 1, A and B amateurs can now use 50 to 52 MHz on a secondary basis with a maximum power output of 25 watts. (GB2RS)

**

RADIO RULES: VANITY CALLSIGN FEE MAY GO UP 80 CENTS

The FCC has released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that, among other things, would raise the cost of obtaining a vanity callsign to $15.00 for a ten year license term. The current cost is $14.20 which in essence means an increase of only 80 cents if the rule making is approved. (FCC)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the KJ3LR repeater serving Bradenton, Florida.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO AND SCOUTING: BSA ANNOUNCES NEW MORSE CODE INTERPRETER STRIP

The Boy Scouts of America have just announced a new "Interpreter Strip" for Morse Code. An "Interpreter Strip" on the uniform means that the Scout or adult leader is able to communicate in a particular language. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramovich, NT3V, explains:

--

Those older Scouts and former Scouts among you may remember the Boy Scout requirements that said a Scout had to learn Morse Code or signal flags to send and receive a message. And, even though that requirement has disappeared and Morse Code is no longer mandatory to get any amateur radio license in the United States, the BSA is reviving Morse Code as a "language" worth learning.

You can probably credit Jim Wilson, K5ND, for getting this one from concept to reality.

He's the BSA's "Jamboree on the Air" organizer and the volunteer chairman for the next K2BSA operation at the 2013 National Boy Scouts Jamboree at the Summit in West Virigina.

Wilson works at BSA headquarters in Texas and is a big promoter of amateur radio in Scouting. So much so, Wilson says he organized a national Radio Scouting advisory committee last year to get stronger support in the amateur and Scouting community for JOTA.

Earlier this year, Wilson says a member of that committee made a suggestion about getting some additional Scouting recognition for amateur radio.

Wilson says there were some ideas that eventually evolved into exploring the "interpreter" strip worn on the Scout uniform to show a Scout has some ability to speak a certain language.

Wilson admits he came up with the idea for "Morse" on the strip - but in the letters of the language - dah-dah, dah-dah-dah, di-dah-dit, dit-dit-dit, dit."

Wilson says he quickly moved the idea over to the BSA's national awards committee where it got a favorable reception and approval within months.

So how does a boy earn it?

Wilson says there are three requirements, the first....

"It's carrying on a 5-minute conversation in Morse Code at a speed of at least 5 words per minute," Wilson explains. "And, then the second one, copying correctly a 2-minute message sent in Morse Code at a minimum of 5-words-per-minute.

"And, copying of course means writing the message down as it's received. And, then, three, sending a 25-word written document in Morse Code at a minimum of 5 words per minute."

Wilson says Scouts can be certified by their Scoutmaster or maybe even a ham who's an adult Scout leader.

Wilson says the idea is to further cement the bonds of brotherhood between Scouting and ham radio operators. And, of course, Wilson is....

"Eager to increase participation in amateur radio to provide an opportunity for Scouts to get involved in a fun hobby, a hobby that promotes communicating with lots of Scouts and others around the country and around the world," Wilson says. "And, it's science, it's technology, it's engineering, it's math - the stem items that are of enormous interest right now and frankly have been in Boy Scouting for quite some time."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

For more on the new Boy Scouts of America Interpreter Strip for Morse Code please visit tinyurl.com/scouting-morse-code on the World-Wide-Web. (NT3V, ARNewsline(tm))

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC AFFIRMS $10000 FINE AGAINST OHIO AM STATION

The FCC has affirmed a $10,000 Monetary Forfeiture Order it issued to Taylor Broadcasting Company which is the licensee of AM Station WJTB in Elyria, Ohio . This for the station willfully and repeatedly violating Section 73.1125(a) of the Commission's rules by failing to maintain a management and staff presence at the station's main studio.

As previously reported, back on February 13th the Enforcement Bureau's Detroit Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability in the amount of $10,000 to Taylor Broadcasting. Since then, Taylor Broadcasting has not filed a response to the NAL.

Now, based on the information before it, on May 2nd the FCC has affirmed the monetary forfeiture. Its also given Taylor Broadcasting the customary 30 days to pay the fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

MEDIA STATS: CABLE LOOSES AND OVER THE AIR VIEWERSHIP REMAINS DOMINANT

Some fascinating home viewing media statistics. According to Multichannel News, United States cable system operators lost about 2 point 9 million video subscribers in 2011. That's a drop of 1 point 5 percent in the overall pay-TV market.

Meanwhile, households with broadband and only free, over-the-air broadcast TV increased by 631,000 over the course of last year, climbing 14% to 5.1 million. Broadcast-only homes dropped 1%, to about 11 million households versus 11.15 million a year earlier.

Whether or not the broadband-plus-free-TV increase reflects a gathering cord-cutting trend, the survey found that 98% of video viewing remained on traditional TV in the 4th quarter of 2011. (Multichannel News)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ILLW REGISTRATION HITS THE 200 MARK

Registration for the 2012 International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend has topped the double century mark. This with word that the West Side Amateur Radio Club of Los Angeles is the 200th registratant for this years event with its members operating station W6A at the Port Fermin Lighthouse located near the San Pedro port area of the city.

The entry by the West Side Amateur Radio Club puts the USA on 28 registrations/ Australia is so far number one with 38 followed by Germany 33, England with 16, and The Netherlands sporting 13. The total of nations committed to the event so far is nearing 30.

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend will be held on August the 18th and 19th. Find out more or register your lighthouse by visiting the ILLW (dot) net. (VK3PC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: NORTHERN IRELAND AMATEUR RADIO CONFERENCE JUNE 16

>From the ham radio social page, if you plan to be in Ireland on June 16th, you might want to stop by the Northern Ireland Amateur Radio Conference. Sponsored by the West Tyrone Amateur Radio Club the venue this year is the Technology Education Centre in the town of Omagh. Featured will be lectures, seminars and demonstrations along with commercial vendors and booth representing special interest groups and various national amateur radio societies. Again the date for the 2012 Northern Ireland Amateur Radio Conference at the Technology Education Centre in Omagh. (IRTS)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: W5KUB TO NETCAST LIVE FROM HAMVENTION 2012

Closer to home, Tom Medlin, W5KUB, will once again be streaming live television from the 2012 Dayton Hamvention.

Tom will begin his live webcast on Wednesday morning May 16th at 0800 Central, broadcasting his 550 mile drive. He will then set up shop in the Hamvention Flea Market and will spend the next three days bringing you the sights and sounds of Hamvention 2012 before live-casting his drive home.

While on the web from Hamvention Tom and his crew will be interviewing some of ham radios best known celebrities. This includes television producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, of the hit television comedy Last Man Standing.

So if you cannot be at Hamvention in person, you can enjoy part of the festivities vicariously by tuning in via the Internet to w5kub dot com. Again that's w5kub dot com for this years live netcast from Hamvention 2012. (W5KUB)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: NEWSLINE FORUM AT HAMVENTION - "HAM RADIO IN THE YEAR 2112"

Also a reminder that we at Amateur Radio Newsline will once again be hosting the annual Ham Radio Town Meeting at Hamvention 2012. This years topic is titled "Imagining the Future: Ham Radio in the Year 2112" and takes an optimistic look at the way we may be operating as a hobby and a service 100 years from now.

This years presenters include CQ Magazine Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU; IARU Secretary Rod Staffdord, W6ROD and teenage ham radio high altitude balloon enthusiast Erin King, AK4JG, to name only three. They will be joined by several other notables from the world of amateur radio on a journey through time into what may be our future.

Look for us on Saturday, May 20th in Meeting Room 2 at the Hara Arena. Our session runs from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and we promise you a fun and imaginative time. We hope to see many of you there. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

OFF THE AIR: RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL TO END SHORTWAVE AND SATELLITE BROADCASTS

The shortwave bands will soon be a little less entertaining. This after it was announced that an 80% budget cut is forcing Radio Canada International to abandon shortwave and satellite radio broadcasting, leaving the World-Wide-Web as RCI's only delivery method.

The latest cut of $10 million takes place on June 26th. Once in effect, a date will be set to end the broadcasts from Radio Canada International's Sackville, New Brunwick, transmission site which will then be abandoned. Besides ending shortwave and satellite broadcasting, Radio Canada International will also lose its news operation and cease producing its own programming. (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: K9VV APPOINTED NEW SECTION MANAGER FOR THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS

Some names in the news. First up is Fred Kleber, K9VV, who has been appointed as Section Manager of the Virgin Islands Section beginning May 1, 2012. Kleber, of Christainsted, is taking the reins from John

Ellis, NP2B, who is planning to move out of the section. Ellis has been Section Manager of the Virgin Islands since 1996. Kleber has served as the Section Emergency Coordinator of the Virgin Islands this past year. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: THREE SHUTTLE VETERANS INDUCTED INTO THE ASTRONAUT HALL OF FAME

The U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame has inducted three new space travelers into its ranks. On Saturday, May 5th, Kevin Chilton, Franklin Chang Diaz, and Charles Precourt, became the Hall of Fame's 11th class of space shuttle astronauts and the first to be inducted after the 30 year program had come to its end.

The three were enshrined during a public ceremony held at NASA's Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Florida, which includes the Hall of Fame. To have been eligible for induction in 2012, the astronauts needed to have made their first space mission in 1994 or earlier. They also had to be retired from flight status as a NASA commander, pilot or mission specialist for at least five years, be a U.S. citizen; and have orbited the Earth at least once.

Induction of the shuttle veterans raised the number of honorees in the Hall of Fame to 81. This includes all of the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo pioneers. (NASA via N6ZXJ)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FOX PROJECT REVIEW SAYS BIRD DEVELOPMENT ON TRACK

AMSAT's Fox Satellite Project has completed its preliminary design review and is looking good. Mechanical, RF, control, power, and related issues were evaluated at the three night session in late April with the needed development for various systems refined.

One thing that became evident is that AMSAT is in need of an experienced RF designer for the Fox-1 satellite. Due to international trade restrictions the person must be a US citizen or permanent resident. If you interested please send an e-mail with your phone number to Tony Monteiro to AA2TX (at) amsat (dot) org.

Currently, Fox-1 is slated for launch in the second half of 2013. (AMSAT-NA)

**

AWARDS NEWS: DXCC ONLINE APPLICATION TURN-AROUND.

The ARRL's new on-line DXCC application system appears to be up and running quite smoothly. This according to Steve Lawrence, WB6RSE, of Los Angeles California.

WB6RSE tells the Ohio Penn DX Newsletter that he submitted an Online DXCC application just prior to the recent International DX Convention in Visalia, California. At the convention he had his cards checked and the paperwork accepted for forwarding to the DXCC desk for processing. Just two weeks later, the credits appeared in Steve's Logbook of the World DXCC Account Status. (OPDX)

**

ON THE AIR: KK5W FROM GALVESTON TEXAS ON MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND

On the air, listen out for members of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club activating the call KK5W to be active during the Museum Ships Weekend on June 2nd and 3rd. Operations will be from radio rooms of WWII Submarine USS Cavalla and Destroyer Escort USS Stewart at Seawolf Park on Pelican Island in Galveston, Texas. They plan to operate on 40 through 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL with a self addressed stamped envelope to KK5W as listed on QRZ.com. More information is available on-line at www.bvarc.org (BVARC)

**

DX

In DX, the Wessex Contest Group will be operating from the Isle of Skye through the 19th of May. They will be using a variety of equipment including some homebrew gear, a number of QRP stations along with the normal high power modern contest gear. QSL via EB7DX either direct, via the bureau or via Logbook of The World.

F5IRO is expected to return to Uganda in early May. With the help of 5X1D he hopes to get his license during the first week and plans to become QRV on CW on the high frequency bands in the evenings. Some PSK may be possible also. QSL via F8DFP.

DH2AK and DL1THM, will be active portable PJ2 from Curacao on a holiday style operation through May 18th. They will be on the air using the PJ2A club station mainly on SSB on 20 and 15 meters. QSL via bureau to their home calls.

Brothers ZB3M and ZB2ER are using the special calls ZQ3M and ZQ2ER from Gibralter through June 10th. This, to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. QSL direct only to ZB3M.

ZS6RGV is the new radio operator on the Marion Island base. His equipment includes an Icom IC-736 transceiver and FL-7000 amplifier. ZS1HF is going to help him with applying for a ZS8 call and will act as his QSL manager.

Lastly, an international team of operators will be on the air as 3D2C from Conway Reef between September 24th and October 5th. Activity will be on 160 through 2 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31. QSL via YT1AD, direct or by the bureau.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: ARDF CHAMPIONSHIPS COMING TO SAN DIEGO CA

And finally this week, they call themselves foxtailers, but they're not really after those bushy-tailed creatures. Here's the straight scoop from Newsline's Joe Moell, K0OV, who is also ARRL's Direction Finding Coordinator.

--

They range in age from the teens to the 70's, and they're coming from all over the USA to compete in the most physical of all ham radio sports. I'm talking about on-foot hidden transmitter hunters, also called foxtailers and radio-orienteers. Their sport is called Amateur Radio Direction Finding, or ARDF.

It's all done on foot in a BIG outdoor space. Thanks to a set of standard international rules, it's pretty much the same all over the world, so we can have international competitions. Your mission is to try to find up to five hidden ham radio transmitters without assistance while on the run, or trotting, or just walking. You'll carry a map and compass so you don't get lost.

You can mix in with the USA's best radio-orienteers at the twelfth national ARDF championships in the mountains east of San Diego during the week and weekend after Memorial Day. It starts off with two days of intense training, followed by three days of competition, all near Mount Laguna. You can stay in the lodge there or camp out among the tall pines.

Learn from the experts, then see how you do for yourself out on the courses. You don't have to be a marathoner to be successful, but it helps to be in good shape. There are nine separate categories with medals for the best three in each, so you'll only be competing against people of your own age range and gender. If you're in the top three of your category, you'll get a medal, and maybe you'll be invited to join ARDF Team USA as it travels to Serbia for the World ARDF Championships this September.

Registration for the championships is now open, so start making plans. You can read all the details and get the registration form on the web at www.homingin.com. That's homingin -- as one word -- homingin.com.

I hope to see YOU at the championships. For Amateur Radio Newsline, this is Joe Moell K-Zero-Oscar-Victor.

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Again, for more information on this and other ham radio direction finding events, please take your web browser to www dot homingin dot com. (K0OV)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, TWiT TV, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, saying 73 from Charleston, West Virginia, and we thank you for listening.

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122. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-15 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1337061600@panix.com>
Source record: 441
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

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1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
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Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

123. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1814 - May 18 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-18 09:00:20 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120518090003.2DC8333C9F@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 442
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1814 - May 18 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1814 with a release date of May 18th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Hams in Canada take a first step toward gaining access to 60 meters; amateur radio gets drawn into the argument over whop really owns Scarborough Reef, entry level hams in Belgium get a power upgrade and the 2012 Dayton Hamvention is here. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1814 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RESTRUCTURING: CANADIAN HAMS MAY SOON GET 60 METER PRIVELEGES

Canadian hams may soon be heard on the 5 MHz band. This as telecommunications regulator Industry Canada has posted the request from Radio Amateurs of Canada for access to 60 Meters and opened a window for anyone to file comments on the proposal. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

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By way of background, back in 2010, Radio Amateurs of Canada approached Industry Canada and requested the use of five center frequencies in the 5 MHz band. Specifically 5332, 5348, 5358.5, 5373 and 5405 kHz.

The national society stated that the use of these frequencies would allow for more reliable communications during emergency operations. It noted that the propagation characteristics in the 5 MHz frequency range allow for both local and inter-provincial communications.

Radio Amateurs of Canada also noted that the U.S. amateur radio community has access to these frequencies and that harmonizing frequency use would allow Canadian radio amateurs to conduct regional emergency communications on a coordinated basis with U.S. radio amateurs. The society noted that many administrations around the world have authorized radio amateurs to use the frequency 5405 kHz.

At the same time, Radio Amateurs of Canada also requested the use of two additional frequencies, 5319 and 5329 kHz, for Canadian domestic use. However, after conducting a review of domestic and international use of 5319 kHz, Industry Canada determined that this frequency is unavailable for use by the amateur radio service in Canada.

The proposal still needs to complete the entire Canadian rule making process. Canadian hams and other citizens have until June 12th to file comments on this matter.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

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Bill Unger, VE3XT, is Radio Amateurs of Canada's North -East Ontario Regional Director. He says that this has been a long hard go and has taken a lot of time and effort on the part of the national society, doing so on behalf of all Canadian radio amateurs. (RAC)

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RADIO RELATIONS: HAM RADIO BEING DRAWN INTO DISPUTE OVER OWNERSHIP OF SCARBOROUGH REEF

Ham radio is being drawn into a dispute over the territorial ownership of Scarborough Reef. This as a website pops up claiming correspondence between the Philippine Amateur Radio Association and the ARRL supports mainland China's territorial claim in regard to the land mass that's also known as as Panatag Shoal or Bajo de Masinloc.

The report on the Sina website relating to amateur radio says that back in 1990, the then Philippine ambassador to Germany indicated clearly in his letter to a German radio amateur on February 5th that, Scarborough was not within the Philippine territory and sovereignty. This, according to the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority of the Philippines.

The documents issued by the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority of the Philippines and the Philippine amateur radio organization to the American Radio Relay League on October 18 and November 18, 1994 had also are claimed to confirm that the Philippine territorial limits and sovereignty was stipulated by the Article 3 of the Treaty of Paris way back in the year 1889.

Scarborough Reef is located between the Macclesfield Bank and Luzon Island of the Philippines. Over the years it has seen seen several major DXpeditions and still ranks high as a wanted entity by DXers world wide. .

You can read the entire claim for yourself on-line at tinyurl.com/Scarborough-Reef.

(Sina.com, Southgate)

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RESTRUCTURING: BELGIUM ENTRY LEVEL HAMS GET POWER UPGRADE

In a very strange turnabout of events, Belgium, which only recently threw a paperwork logjam into the lives of hams with antenna registration based on hours on the air and power output has suddenly

granted a major power increase to its entry level Foundation Class license holders. We have more in this report:

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On May 4th, the Flemish government's telecommunications regulator B-I-P-T announced power increases that could permit entry level amateur radio Foundation holders to run 100 watt transceivers on the High Frequency bands. Well, more accurately run 100 watt out transceivers at about half power output level.

The new maximum output power for Flemish Foundation class license holders is 50 watts. That's up from the 10 watts out previously permitted.

But its not all good news for the Belgium based ham radio newcomers. This is because that nations Foundation class H-F allocations are being reduced slightly on most bands but the changes are far to many to list here.

There were also some modifications made for holders of higher class Belgium Amateur Radio Licenses. Those along with the major changes for the Foundation class are on line as a .pdf document in the Flemish language at tinyurl.com/belgium-power-upgrade.

And don't rely on Google or any other on-line language translator to convert this document into truly understandable English. Flemish is one of those languages that really require a human being to translate into understandable form.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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The change in power level for Belgium Foundation level hams came as the result of a lobbying effort by the Belgium national amateur radio society, the UBA. Meantime there is no word on any hope of easing the antenna paperwork requirement now faced by all classes of Flemish hams. (UBA, Southgate)

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RADIO POLITICS: ROSENWORCEL AND PAI CONFIRMED AS FCC COMMISSIONERS

The United States Senate has voted to confirm Jessica Rosenworcel and Ajit Pai as FCC Commissioners and they likely will have been sworn in by the time this newscast goes to air. Rosenworcel is senior communications counsel for the Senate Commerce Committee and also has FCC experience. Pai has worked at the law firm of Jenner and Block since April 2011, and is a former FCC attorney and Senate staffer. Once they take their Commission seats it will bring the agency up to its full complement of five commissioners.

(Published news reports)

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BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Hamvention repeater, W8BI, serving Dayton, Ohio.

(5 sec pause here)

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HAM HAPPENINGS: HAMVENTION 2012 OPENS INTERNATIONALLY CONNECTED

As we go to air, the gates at the Hara Arena should be opening for the 2012 Dayton Hamvention. This is the gathering that's considered as being the show of shows in amateur radio.

Michael Kalter, W8CI, is the General Chairman of this 60th anniversary Hamvention and he recently told Hap Holly, KC9RP, of Rain that 2012 is dedicated to the concept that radio amateurs are internationally connected:

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W8CI: "We have a new committee this year that is working with people that are coming from all over the world that is working to try to make them feel comfortable in Dayton, Ohio, and to be comfortable at Hamvention. They had a welcoming evening at the Mariott Hotel from about 4 to 6. The Mariott is South of Dayton. So we could meet and connect to more of our foreign visitors and make them feel welcome because they certainly are.

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Kalter also says it looks to be a good year for both merchants and those hams attending Hamvention 2012 to get some new goodies. He says that that inside booth space is close to a sellout:

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W8CI: "We are doing really well on indoors and if you were to look at our website (www.hamvention.org) and connect to a couple of liks you can see who is where and how many spaces are left. And there sure aren't very many spaces left.

"There are lots of different exhibitors from all over the world.

"We are pleased to have so many back this year and some new ones as well."

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And what about this years prizes?

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W8CI: "We are ahead on prizes this year from what we had last year in terms of dollar value. Our Prize Chairman and Prize Committee worked very hard to bring in some major prizes and our hourly prizes that start when Hamvention doors open.

"We have flat screens (displays) around the facility to make it a little bit easier and a little bit sharper to be able to see if your ticket stub has won."

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If Michael Kalter's predictions are correct, 2012 should be a banner year for the Dayton Hamvention. We'll let you know more in next Weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report.

(ARNewsline(tm), Audio courtsy of RAIN)

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HAM HAPPENINGS: HAM NATION DAYTON BROADCAST TO BE AIRED BY THE TECH GUY ON THE PREMIERE RADIO NETWORK

And speaking of Hamvention 2012, Bob Heil, K9EID, of Heil Sound tells us that satellite service Via Sat is installing its new Exede high speed internet service on site at the Hara Arena for the entire Hamvention weekend.

Bob that the plan is to initially site the equipment at Tom Medlin, W5KUB's streaming video booth in the Flea Market for all to use.

On Saturday, the 19th Via Sat will move the system outside the doors of the Hamvention's Audio Alley for a live broadcast into Leo Laporte, W6TWT's "The Tech Guy" radio show from around 2 to 3 p.m. Eastern Time. This means that 170 stations on the Premiere Network will have a live report form the Dayton Hamvention with Bob, along with co-hosts Gordon West, WB6NOA and George Thomas, W5JDX, originating from the Ham Nation booth for that broadcast.

Leo Laporte's "The Tech Guy" airs from 2 to 5 p.m. Eastern Time every Saturday. To find a station airing it where you live please visit techguylabs.com on the World-Wide-Web. (K9EID)

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RESCUE RADIO: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN REPORTING EMERGENCIES TO THE PUBLIC

"Emergency Management Without Social Media.Fail" is the title of a very interesting op-ed article by author Tim Burrows posted across several social media websites. In it, Burrows looks at both the positive and negative effects on the public that social media can have in attempting to disseminate and update information of a disaster, accident or other event that the public needs to know.

Whether you agree or disagree with Burrows assessment of the role of social media in regard to the accuracy of the information being made public, his article is a very interesting evaluation for anyone involved in the world of emergency communications. You can read the entire story on-line at tinyurl.com/emergency-social-media. (Wordpress.com)

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ENFORCEMENT: CONNECTICUT HAM RADIO OPERATOR HELPS LOCATE AND CONVICT PERSON WHO STOLE FROM NATIONAL ARCHIVES

J. David Goldin ,WB1EZA, is being hailed as a hero by the United States National Archives. This after helping to solve exposed what authorities have called one of the most egregious instances of theft of historic materials from where the government preserves its historic documents, photographs and recordings. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has the details:

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According to news reports when J. David Goldin, WB1EZA, saw a recorded interview of baseball great Babe Ruth for sale on eBay he knew something was wrong. That's because there was only one original record of that 1937 interview of Ruth on a hunting trip, and Goldin had donated it to a government archive more than 30 years ago.

So Goldin, who is described as an avid record collector, launched his own investigation that lead directly to uncovering the person now believed responsible for stealing close to 1000 artifacts from the National Archives.

Goldin began his sleuthing by purchasing a different recording from the same on-line seller. When the deal was complete he recognized the name of the seller as being the same National Archives employee who had received the Babe Ruth and other historic recording that Goldin had donated thirty years earlier.

Goldin then took his findings to federal investigators. They in turn obtained a search warrant and raided the home of retired National Archives employee Leslie Waffen. There authorities carted away two truckloads of materials. Now, after pleading guilty, a judge in Maryland has sentenced Waffen, to an 18 month prison term and fined him $10,000.

Before retiring, Waffen had worked at the National Archives for 40 years.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

United Stares Inspector General, Paul Brachfeld, whose office investigated the theft, says that he plans to honor Goldin. He told

the press that there are some people who give tips who are just passive. He said that J. David Golden wasn't like that. He called Goldin a sentinel. (QRZ.com, other media reports)

**

ENFORCEMENT: TRANSLATOR FINED $10000 FOR IMPROPER OPERATION

Ace of Hearts DJ service and its owner Randy Bennett have been dinged $10,000 by the FCC. This for operating an FM translator near Cape Canaveral, Florida with improper equipment and at more than authorized power levels. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has more:

--

By way of background, in March 2011, the Enforcement Bureau's Tampa office issued a proposed $13,000 fine to Ace of Hearts DJ Service for using an unauthorized transmitting antenna system and operating at more than its authorized transmitter power output. In its investigation FCC agents from the Tampa office measured the field strength for station W277AN at almost twice its authorized level. An inspection showed that the translator was also operating with a two-antenna array rather than the single bay system for which it was authorized. ,

In its reply to the Notice of Apparent Liability, Ace claimed it was now operating within its authorized power levels and with an authorized antenna system. The company asked for the penalty to be waived or reduced, arguing that the higher power levels may have been caused by an unknown third party tampering with the transmission equipment. Also that the antenna issue was the result of a typo on an application.

But the commission was not persuaded that someone tampered with the transmitter and caused the power output to be too high. The commission also said it was up to Ace to have reviewed its license application and make sure it was specifying the proper antenna array.

The FCC did however note that after the original N-A-L was levied, Ace filed an application to modify its license to a two-antenna array so the commission cut the fine by $2,000. Hence the reduction of the fine to the $10,000 level.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the studio in Los Angeles.

--

Bennett and the Ace of Hearts DJ service were given the customary 30 days to pay the fine or to file a further appeal. In addition Bennett was instructed to submit a statement that the translator is now operating consistent with its license authorization. (FCC)

**

RADIO READING: SPRING 2012 TAPR OSR JOURNAL NOW ON LINE

The spring issue of the free TAPR P-S-R Journal edited by Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, is now available to download. This quarterly Journal is full of technical, non-technical and user supplied digital information and articles. Previous issues are also available free from the TAPR website. Its all in cyberspace at www.tapr.org. (TAPR)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: DIGIFEST 2012 - JUNE 2-3

The annual "Digifest" will be held the weekend of June 2nd and 3rd. The popularity and peculiarity of this contest is the great variety of different categories of the participants using various digital modes. These include RTTY, BPSK, MFSK, HELLSCHREIBER, OLIVIA. Complete rules are on line at tinyurl.com/digifest-2012. (Digifest)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: TRACKING MANTA RAYS BY SATELLITE

An international team of researchers have used radio beacon transmitters and satellite technology to track the movements of giant Manta Rays.

According to a Times news report, a team headed by Rachel Graham of the Wildlife Conservation Society in Punta Gorda, Belize, attached transmitters to six Rays off the coast of Mexico's Yucatan peninsula. They reported in the journal PLoS One that they monitored the rays for periods ranging from 27 to 64 days. Their preliminary findings for the Atlantic mantas showed that they traveled as far as 680 miles over a one to two month period searching for food most of the time staying close to the coastline. They also found that Rays spent considerable time in shipping lanes, which rendered them vulnerable to being hit by freighters.

The full in-depth text of this very interesting use of radio tracking can be found on-line at tinyurl.com/manta-ray-tracking (Science Times)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FM INTERFERENCE TO SSB/CW SATELLITES INCREASING

Interference by terrestrial FM operators to ham radio satellites is a growing problem. This according to Alexandru Csete, OZ9AEC who made this recording of FM interference to the FO-9 ham radio bird on

Saturday, May 5th. A QSO that seemed to revolve around chocolate:

--

Actual interference QSO recorded off FO-29

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OZ9AEC says that to an FM operator, the spectrum from 145.8 to 146.0 MHz may seem empty, but it isn't. These frequencies are used by weak signal SSB and CW satellite transponders and even a few watts of FM can cause severe interference.

Some FM operators are unaware that if they use these frequencies their local chat across town will be heard thousands of miles away. Nor do they realize that in holding their point to point terrestrial FM chats in this spectrum that they block the satellite from others to use. The use of FM on an SSB/CW linear transponder satellite also reduces the lifetime of both the satellite's batteries and the transponder itself. (OZ9AEC, Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: THREE MORE HAMS LAUNCH TOWARD THE ISS

If all went as planned, several new ham radio operators should now be on board the International Space Station. NASA Flight Engineer Joseph Acaba, KE5DAR, and his two Russian Cosmonaut crewmates, Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, and Sergei Revin, RN3BS, were scheduled to launch toward the ISS on May 14th.

The new crew members should have arrived at the I-S-S on May 16th. They will join Expedition 31 Commander Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, Flight Engineer Don Pettit, KD5MDT, and Flight Engineer Andrei Kuipers, PI9ISS.

Padalka, Acaba and Revin will transition to the Expedition 32 crew in July and return to Earth this coming September. (NASA, ESA)

**

WORLDBEAT: SOUTH AFRICA NATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO DAY JUNE 16

In news from around the globe, the South Africa Radio League has selected June 16th as National Amateur Radio Day. This holiday will celebrate amateur radio as a national resource and its diversity as the most exciting of all scientific hobbies.

National Ham Radio Day in South Africa will run from 09:00 to 14:00 local time. The objective is to take amateur radio to the public by exhibiting and doing live demonstrations of the various aspects of the hobby and as such a great and a fun thing to be part of. Both individual hams and clubs in South Africa are invited to take part. (SARL)

**

WORLDBEAT: THE ERIC JAMIESON AWARD CREATED IN VK

The Wireless Institute of Australia Board has accepted the offer of Eric Jamieson, VK5LP, to sponsor awards for first amateur radio contacts on the two meter band spanning the Indian Ocean between Australia and Africa. There will be three honors given. One each for voice, for CW and for the digital modes. More on this is on line at www.wia.org.au. (WIA)

**

WORLDBEAT: GB0BON COMMEMORATES BATTLE OF NASBY

The United Kingdom's Welland Valley Amateur Radio Society will again be hosting amateur radio special event station GB0BON on June 16th and 17th. This is in celebration of the 367th anniversary of the Battle of Naseby and the third anniversary of station GB0BON. QSL this operation as directed on the air. (GB2RS)

**

DX

In DX, word that XX9E is the callsign for the 17th-23rd May DXpedition to Coloane Island, Macau. A large team will be active on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY with at least three stations. QSL to EB7DX, direct or electronically via Logbook of the World.

VE1AWW is on the air stroke CY0 from Sable Island. He will be there for at least the next two months and operational on 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters. He will also be coming to 6 meters as soon as he completes installing an antenna for that band. QSL to his home callsign, direct or via the bureau.

Lastly, MM0SSG is now operational from Angola as D2SG. While he will be there through the end of October his operating time is limited because he is there on a work assignment on an off-shore oil platform. Operations will only take place when he is on land. If you work him, QSL via GM4FDM, direct or by the bureau.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: LENORE JENSEN, W6NAZ, PHONE PATCHING TO VIETNAM VIA MARS

And finally this week, a piece of ham radio history that you can enjoy and share with friends. While perusing the latest ham radio videos posted to YouTube, our producer Biull Pasternak, WA6ITF, came across one featuring the late radio, television and film actress Lenore Jensen, W6NAZ, running phone patches to Vietnam.

These phone patches were done through the Military Affiliate Radio System which often used frequencies just outside the regular High Frequency ham bands. Overseas telephone calls were difficult to make decades ago and sometimes impossible depending on location, so for U.S. service men stationed around the world, ham radio filled the void. This was an all with volunteer effort and Lenore Jensen, W6NAZ, was at the forefront of the activity.

--

Audio bite from film

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The film is titled "A Visit to Mars" and was part of the United States Army produced series "The Big Picture." Bill dates the documentary to the late 60s and notes that the phone patch was obviously simulated for filming. He asks: Did you ever hear noise-free audio on High Frequency DX, or the public always remembering to say "over?"

These details aside, the film appears to be accurate overall. It depicts the way things were done about 50 years ago and is a trip back in time. You can see it yourself on-line at tinyurl.com/LenorePatchingToVietnam. And LenorePatchingToVietnam is spelled as one word. (CGC, ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, this week representing Newsline at the Dayton Hamvention, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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124. The ARRL Letter for May 17, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-18 12:44:48 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120518041230.7E02B26F758@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 443
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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May 17, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==> ARRL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: ARRL PRESIDENT KAY CRAIGIE, N3KN,
INVITES INPUT FOR 2014 ARRL CENTENNIAL

The ARRL will celebrate its centennial in 2014, and is already making
plans to commemorate the highlights of the League's first century and
looking forward to what the second century may bring. But it's your

League and your centennial. ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN,
invites all ARRL members to provide suggestions to help make this
once-in-a-lifetime event truly special. "Centennial theme publications
and special sections of regular publications are in the works," Craigie
noted, "as is an operating event that all members can participate in.
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We will have centennial merchandise in the ARRL store and artwork you can use to design items for yourself and your club. We'll be drawing on the ARRL's historical collection and the memories of living amateurs." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-president-kay-craigie-n3kn-invites-input-for-2014-arrl-centennial>.

==> REGULATORY: ARRL RESPONDS TO FCC REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON IMPEDIMENTS TO AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

On Wednesday, May 16, 2012, the ARRL filed comments in response to the FCC's Public Notice seeking comments on Emergency Communications by Amateur Radio and impediments to Amateur Radio communications. Known as Docket 12-91, the Commission is soliciting comments from the public as it writes the report they were directed to present to Congress as part of Public Law No. 112-96 <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-112publ96/pdf/PLAW-112publ96.pdf>.

At the direction of ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, and the ARRL Board's Executive Committee, the document was drafted by ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, assisted by ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, as well as ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX and several ARRL Headquarters staff members.

Over 1500 e-mails were received at ARRL from amateurs, sharing the details of their various deed restrictions. An additional 350-plus e-mails were also received detailing actual Emergency Communications participation in various events from almost every state in the US as well as several US territories.

"The information provided to the ARRL by its members has provided a strong statement of how the various deed restrictions have negatively impacted the ability of Amateur Radio licensees to maximize their participation in disaster and emergency support communications," said Henderson. "The information provided by the membership not only helps us make the best case to the FCC in this docket, but also begins to lay a good foundation for considering possible rule changes that would enhance Amateur Radio communications beyond this proceeding. I want to thank the hundreds of concerned amateurs who made the effort to provide the ARRL with the facts of their personal set of circumstances. What you shared with us has helped us make a strong argument to present to the Commission," he added.

A copy of the ARRL's filing <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7021918167> to the FCC may be found on the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System website.

==> REGULATORY: NEW "PRB-1" LAW NOW IN EFFECT IN OHIO

On May 15, Ohio Governor John Kasich signed a bill into law <http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/BillText129/129_HB_158_EN_N.pdf> granting comprehensive rights to Amateur Radio operators in that state. Several key players in the successful effort to enact a "PRB-1" law in

Ohio were present for the signing, including Section Manager Frank J. Piper, KI8GW; Rick Swain, KK8O; Bill Carpenter, AA8EY; Steve Katz, N8WL,

and Constance Barsky, WD8ODC. ARRL Great Lakes Division Director James Weaver, K8JE, was also at the signing.

Ohio SM Frank Piper provided some background:

"In the past three years, we have had four versions of this bill in the Ohio Statehouse. In the last State Assembly, these bills died in Committee. In this current Assembly, everything lined up for us, and House Bill 158 made the entire journey from Introduction to the Governor Kasich's signature.

"We had to make a few revisions to HB 158 during its travels through committee hearings, but in the end we finished with an Act that places the full language of CFR 47, Part 97.15 into the Ohio Revised Code. In addition, language at the end of the law states: 'Any legislative authority that denies an application for approval of an amateur station antenna structure shall state the reasons for the denial and shall, on appeal, bear the burden of proving that the authority's actions are consistent with this section.' This language removes the burden of proof from the Amateur Radio operator and places it on the legislative authority.

"State Government Liaison Nick Pittner, K8NAP, did a tremendous job over the past several years, staying on top of the status of bills that were running their course on both sides of the Statehouse. Nick knew when to call in key people to testify to Committees, and was instrumental in the process of negotiating the required revisions when requested.

"My thanks go out to all the Amateur Radio operators in the Ohio Section who called, wrote and e-mailed their State Representatives and Senators to support this legislation. Without their grass roots work, this victory would not have been possible."

==> HAMVENTION: DAYTON HAMVENTION STARTS MAY 18

Thousands of ham radio operators from around the world are converging on Dayton, Ohio for this weekend's Hamvention. The theme: Internationally Connected.

==> FCC NEWS: JESSICA ROSENWORCEL AND AJIT PAI SWORN IN AS FCC COMMISSIONERS

On Monday, May 14, Jessica Rosenworcel, and Ajit Pai, were sworn in

by FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski as FCC Commissioners. For the first time in almost a year, the Commission is once again at full strength. Rosenworcel, a Democrat, fills the seat vacated by Michael Copps who retired from the Commission earlier this year; her term runs through June 30, 2015. Pai, a Republican,

replaces Meredith Attwell Baker, who left the FCC in June 2011; his term runs through June 30, 2016. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/jessica-rosenworcel-and-ajit-pai-sworn-in-as-fcc-commissioners>.

==> ON THE AIR: ARRL MICROWAVE BAND PLANNING COMMITTEE RELEASES DRAFT BAND PLANS

The ARRL UHF-Microwave Band Plan Committee has released for comment its draft band plan for 13 cm (2.3/2.4 GHz) and welcomes comments on it. The amended draft band plan for 902-928 MHz (33 cm) has also been released. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-microwave-band-planning-committee-releases-draft-band-plans>.

==> QST: GET READY FOR THE LAUNCH OF THE DIGITAL VERSION OF QST

We are excited about being able to offer ARRL members access to a brand-new digital edition of QST. We expect to launch the digital edition on or about May 23. If you have checked the Notification box on your Member Profile, you will be notified by e-mail as soon as the digital edition becomes available. As a bonus, ARRL members will also have access to the digital archive -- the digital editions beginning with the January 2012 issue. Our thanks to those who have beta tested the digital edition. Your input has been invaluable as we have worked to improve and enhance the digital edition. For more information, please see the Digital Edition FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq>.

==> NOMINATIONS INVITED FOR 2012 PHILIP J. MCGAN MEMORIAL SILVER ANTENNA AWARD

The ARRL is now accepting nominations for the 2012 Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award <http://www.arrl.org/phil-mcgan-award>. This annual honor goes to a radio amateur who has demonstrated success in Amateur Radio public relations and best exemplifies volunteer spirit of the award's namesake, Phil McGan, WA2MBQ (SK). As the first chairman of the ARRL Public Relations Committee, McGan helped to reinvigorate the League's commitment to public relations. Nominations are due at ARRL Headquarters by May 25, 2012.

"Throughout the year, ARRL Public Information Coordinators (PIC <http://www.arrl.org/public-information-coordinator>s), Public Information Officers (PIO <http://www.arrl.org/public-information-officer>s) and other public relations volunteers strive to keep Amateur Radio visible in their communities," explained ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP. "They do this by publicizing special events, writing press releases and maintaining good relations with local news media. Their efforts benefit us all. Nominating someone -- and recognizing his or her public relations achievements -- is "the perfect way to say 'thank you' for promoting Amateur Radio."

The McGan Award honors achievement in public relations. Pitts pointed out the distinction between public relations -- essentially getting Amateur

Radio's message to the public -- and public service, which is Amateur Radio activity on behalf of the public, such as supporting emergency communication. "If you're considering nominating someone in your area for the McGan Award, please ask yourself if your candidate's work fits the public relations definition," he said.

The McGan Award recognizes those Public Relations activities that include efforts specifically directed at bringing Amateur Radio to the public's attention (and most often to the news media's) in a positive light. These may include traditional methods such as news releases, or less-traditional methods such as hosting a radio show or being an active public speaker.

Unfortunately, McGan never got to see how well his own PR efforts paid off. In his honor, his friends in the New Hampshire Amateur Radio Association joined with the ARRL Board of Directors to pay a lasting tribute to the important contributions he made on behalf of Amateur Radio by establishing this annual award. A committee of volunteers knowledgeable about Amateur Radio public relations will pick the winner, subject to approval by the ARRL Board of Directors. All McGan Award nominees must be a full ARRL member -- not a group -- in good standing and may not be regularly compensated for public relations work involving Amateur Radio, including payment for articles. Nominees may not be a current officer, director, vice director or paid staff member, or a member of the current selection committee.

Nominations must be received at ARRL Headquarters by 5 PM Eastern Time on May 25, 2012. The committee will not consider nominations that arrive after the deadline or without an entry form. Complete details and an official nomination form on McGan Award eligibility and how to nominate someone are available on the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/phil-mcgan-award>. Completed entry forms and supporting materials should be mailed to Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award, c/o Allen Pitts, W1AGP, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Unspeakable high processions of Sun and Moon and countless stars above <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWeeK1RlOJ8>" Cook, K7RA, reports: If you look at Spaceweather.com and use their archive feature (check the three drop-down field on the upper right), you can step day-by-day through the past week and see the progression of a considerable number of sunspots in the Daily Sun image on the left side of the page. There was one new sunspot group on

May 10, two on May 11, four more on May 13 and another on May 15. Average daily sunspot numbers for the past week rose nearly 25 points, or about 27 percent, to 117.3. The big day was Monday, May 14, when the

daily sunspot number jumped to 156. This was one day after four new sunspot groups, 1481 through 1484 appeared for the first time. Average daily solar flux rose 12 points to 131, an increase of 10 percent. For the near term, predicted solar flux is 130 on May 17-24, 115 on May 25-31, 120 on June 1, 125 on June 2-3, 130 on June 4, 135 on June 5-9 and 130 on June 10-12. Projected planetary A index is 5 on May 17-22, 8 on May 23, 5 on May 24 through June 4, then 8, 12, 18, 10 and 5 on June 5-9.

Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, May 18. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Ralph Vaughan Williams' Sea Symphony <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_Symphony> (IV The Explorers), taken from Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass> (Book XXVI <http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass/Book_XXVI>, Passage to India, verse 5).

==> NO ARRL AUDIO NEWS ON MAY 17, WILL RETURN MAY 24

Due to staff travel to the Dayton Hamvention, there will be no ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news> on Thursday, May 17. ARRL Audio News will return on May 24.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- May 19 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- May 19-20 -- His Majesty King of Spain Contest (CW); EU PSK DX Contest; Baltic Contest
- May 21 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- May 21-22 -- Aegean RTTY Contest
- May 23-24 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- May 25 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- May 26-27 -- CQ WW WPX Contest (CW)
- May 27 -- QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint (local time); SARL Digital Contest
- May 27-28 -- Michigan QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- May 18-20 -- Dayton Hamvention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/dayton-hamvention-3>, Dayton, Ohio
- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee
- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electro
nics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 4 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama

- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
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125. FCC Daily Digest 05/21/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-21 16:03:19 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-521706-2012.05.21-10.53.20--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 444
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 98 May 21, 201
2

[...]

GLEN E. ZOOK. Dismissed the Petition. Action by: Deputy Chief, Mobility
Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau by LETTER. (DA No. 12-795).
WTB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-795A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-795A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-795A1.txt

[...]

FINAL PLAN FOR RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF EXISTING RULES by REPORT. OGC h
ttp://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314166A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314166A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314166A1.txt

[...]

126. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-22 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1337666401@panix.com>
Source record: 445
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

127. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-22 06:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1337666701@panix.com>
Source record: 446
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

128. June 2012 QST - Digital Edition

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-23 17:02:38 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120523163546.1852927C52C@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 447
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

*June 2012 QST - Digital Edition - *Go Now>
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201206/>
Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201206/>

Digital QST

Dear ARRL Member,June 2012 QST - Digital Edition
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201206/>

In addition to the print edition of /QST/, all ARRL members have access
to the convenient, new digital edition of /QST/ at no additional cost.
The current edition of /QST/ is available now: June 2012 /QST/
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201206/>

Special ARRL Field Day Issue/First Digital Edition...

* ARRL COO Harold Kramer, WJ1B provides background on the new digital
edition
* A telescoping multiband vertical whip for Field Day (or any other day)
* Plan ahead to avoid Field Day mishaps
* The first South Sudan (STï¿½) DXpedition
* ...and more!

Digital-Only Features...

* Video from President Kay Craigie, N3KN introducing the first digital
edition
* Video overview of the portable generators reviewed in this issue
* Review of the new ham-centric mystery novel by Ward Silver, Nï¿½AX
* Video example of a 43 foot vertical antenna installation with a
remote tuner for multiband use
* ...and more!

Every issue of /QST/ is filled with the news and features you need to
keep active in Amateur Radio. After you read through it, visit the
Digital /QST/ Feedback Form
<http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-feedback-form> and tell us what you
enjoyed!

73,

Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Editor

What is a digital edition?
The digital edition of /QST/ is a web-based edition of the journal...a way to read and interact with the current issue of /QST/ anytime, anywhere. It simulates the look and feel of our printed version, complete with page flipping, indexing and easy ways to move around to get to the content you want. You can choose to read it online, or download the entire issue to your laptop. Each issue includes unique, digital-edition-only content such as video, audio features and extra content. Members can also access the digital archive for access to previous issues.

How do I access the digital edition?
Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access this benefit. You can always find a link to the current digital edition and archives at www.arrl.org/qst <http://www.arrl.org/qst>.

To login or register, go to www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

Forgot password? Go to www.arrl.org/forgot-password <http://www.arrl.org/forgot-password> to reset your password.

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129. The ARRL Letter for May 24, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-24 21:47:02 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120524184746.8199626CA2F@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 448
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

May 24, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + Discover Digital QST!
- + Dayton Hamvention®: Thousands of Hams Get "Internationally
Connected" in Dayton
- + Scouting and Amateur Radio: ICOM to Support Boy Scouts at National
Jamboree and at Local Council Level
- CQ Announces 2012 Hall of Fame Inductees
- + New "PRB-1" Law Now in Effect in Ohio
- Section Manager Elections: ARRL Spring Section Manager Election
Results Announced
- + FCC Dismisses Texas Ham's Fourth Petition, Calls it "Repetitive"
- Solar Update
- + Silent Key: Former ARRL First Vice President Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML
(SK)
- Silent Key: Former ARRL Atlantic Vice Director Jim Mozley, W2BCH (SK)
- + ARRL Headquarters to Close in Observance of Memorial Day Holiday
- Amateur Radio in Space: Amateurs Asked to Listen for HORYU-2
Satellite
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + DISCOVER DIGITAL QST!

If you're an ARRL member, you now have access to the new digital
edition <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201206/index.php> of
the June 2012 issue of QST. It is available to all ARRL members at no
cost. All you need to do is log on to the ARRL website. Also available:
digital editions of the January through May 2012 issues. You will find
links to all the digital editions on our website
<http://www.arrl.org/qst/>. But wait -- there's more! All ARRL members
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now also have access to every issue of QST via the Periodicals Archive <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-periodicals-archive-search> -- from the first issue, published in December 1915, through the December 2011 issue. You'll find more information about the digital edition in the FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq> (frequently asked questions) section. We hope you enjoy the new digital editions of QST. Unless you have chosen to opt out <http://www.arrl.org/QST-Print-Edition-Opt-Out-Form> of the print edition, you will continue to receive QST in the mail each month.

==> + DAYTON HAMVENTION®: THOUSANDS OF HAMS GET "INTERNATIONALLY CONNECTED" IN DAYTON

When Hara Arena -- home of the Dayton Hamvention for the past 48 years -- opened its doors at 9 AM on Friday, May, 18, thousands of hams swarmed in, eager to see the latest and greatest that Amateur Radio has to offer. And they weren't disappointed! With the introduction of three new transceivers this year, as well as hundreds of vendors inside and in the world-famous flea market, there was a definite buzz in the air, especially within the ARRL EXPO

ARRL EXPO -- located in the Ball Arena Hall of the large Hara Arena -- included more than 20 exhibits staffed by ARRL program representatives. Among the new booths for 2012 was an exhibit introducing the new digital edition of QST, ARRL's membership journal. There were laptops, tablets and iPads on hand at the booth so hams could explore the online edition of QST. All ARRL members now have access to this exciting new member benefit.

Visitors to the ARRL EXPO saw a lot of activities relating to DX, including DXCC card checking and a chance to drop off QSL cards for the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau. Representatives from the International Amateur Radio Union and IARU Member-Societies, including the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club, the Japan Amateur Radio League, the Qatar Amateur Radio Society and the Radio Society of Great Britain were on hand within the ARRL EXPO. "The theme of the 2012 Hamvention was Internationally Connected," explained ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "What better way to get connected than meeting with fellow radio amateurs from around the world?" Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/thousands-of-hams-get-internationally-connected-in-dayton>.

==> + SCOUTING AND AMATEUR RADIO: ICOM TO SUPPORT BOY SCOUTS AT NATIONAL JAMBOREE AND AT LOCAL COUNCIL LEVEL

Against the backdrop of the 2012 Dayton Hamvention® -- the largest gathering of radio amateurs in the US -- ICOM America announced a sponsorship agreement with the Boy Scouts of America for the organization's 2012 National Scout Jamboree. As the BSA's official Amateur Radio transceiver supplier for the jamboree, ICOM will provide equipment and technical support for the K2BSA radio operation, the Radio merit badge and Jamboree on the Air. Read more here

<http://www.arrl.org/news/icom-to-support-boy-scouts-at-national-jamboree-and
-at-local-council-level>.

==> CQ ANNOUNCES 2012 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

CQ magazine announced its 2012 Hall of Fame inductees on May 18, welcoming 16 new members into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame, two new members of the CQ DX Hall of Fame and two new members of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors those individuals, whether licensed hams or not, who have made significant contributions to Amateur Radio, as well as those amateurs who have made significant contributions either to Amateur Radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet. The CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame honor those amateurs who not only excel in personal performance in these major areas of Amateur Radio but who also "give back" to Amateur Radio in outstanding ways. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/cq-announces-2012-hall-of-fame-inductees>.

==> + NEW "PRB-1" LAW NOW IN EFFECT IN OHIO

On May 15, Ohio Governor John Kasich signed a bill, granting comprehensive rights to Amateur Radio operators in that state. HB 158 codifies the federal restrictions on the local zoning of amateur station antenna structures, thereby preserving Amateur Radio Service communications as a Homeland Security resource, placing the burden of proof for compliance on the zoning authority. According to ARRL Ohio Section Manager Frank Piper, KI8GW, this places the full language of Section 97.15 <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&sid=b95e71ef3fb3aac663d8913d35a596f0&rgn=div8&view=text&node=47:5.0.1.1.6.1.157.8&idno=47> into the Ohio Revised Code: "This new law law states that 'Any legislative authority that denies an application for approval of an amateur station antenna structure shall state the reasons for the denial and shall, on appeal, bear the burden of proving that the authority's actions are consistent with this section.' This language removes the burden of proof from the Amateur Radio operator and places it on the legislative authority." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/new-prb-1-law-now-in-effect-in-ohio>.

==> SECTION MANAGER ELECTIONS: ARRL SPRING SECTION MANAGER ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Of the nine Section Manager elections this spring, two were decided by member balloting. Ballots were counted on May 22 at ARRL Headquarters. Terms for these ARRL Field Organization officials begin July 1. Lou Everett Sr, WA5LOU, of Indianapolis, was elected as the new Indiana Section Manager, and Paul Eakin, KJ4G, of Panacea, was re-elected as the North Florida Section Manager. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-spring-section-manager-election-results-announced>.

==> + FCC DISMISSES TEXAS HAM'S FOURTH PETITION, CALLS IT "REPETITIVE"

For the fourth time in six years, the FCC has rejected a Petition for Rulemaking filed by Glen Zook, K9STH. In each of his Petitions, (2006, April 2009, 2011 and a Petition for Reconsideration in December 2009), Zook has asked the FCC to change its station identification rules as set forth in Section 97.119(a). His 2011 Petition was no different: Zook told the FCC that since "[v]irtually every amateur station does not identify at the end of the communication," he requested that the station identification rule be amended to provide that if an amateur station transmits its call sign during its first transmission, that station need not transmit its call sign at the end of the transmission, provided that the transmission is less than three minutes. Zook called this the "3-minute rule." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-dismisses-texas-ham-s-fourth-em-petition-em-calls-it-repetitive>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Greater than stars or Suns <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWeeK1RlOJ8>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers declined seven points over the past week, to 110.3, while the average daily solar flux dropped 3.3 points to 131. These unsettled geomagnetic conditions over the past few days most likely resulted from an interplanetary shock wave due to a solar flare on May 20. The predicted planetary A index is 12, 5 and 8 on May 24-26, then 5 on May 27-28, 8 on May 29, 5 on May 30-June 4, then 8, 12, 15, 10 and 8 on June 5-9, followed by 5 on June 10-11, 8 on June 12-13, 5 on June 14-16, then 8, 15, 10 and 8 on June 17-20, and 5 on June 21-25. The predicted solar flux is 115 on May 24-25, 110 on May 26, 105 on May 27-30, 115 on May 31, then 120, 125, 125 and 130 on June 1-4, and 135 on June 5-9. Four new sunspot groups arose in the past week, on May 18, 20, 22 and 23. Until June 4, the predicted solar flux values are below the average for the past week, at 127.7. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, May 25. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Ralph Vaughan Williams' Sea Symphony <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_Symphony> (IV The Explorers), taken from Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass> (Book XXVI <http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass/Book_XXVI>, Passage to India, verse 8).

==> + SILENT KEY: FORMER ARRL FIRST VICE PRESIDENT STEVE MENDELSOHN, W2ML (SK)

After a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer, Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, of Dumont, New Jersey, passed away May 23. He was 67. An ARRL Life Member, Mendelsohn began his time with ARRL in 1983 when he was elected as Vice Director of the Hudson Division. After two terms as Vice Director, he was elected as Hudson Division Director in 1987. In 1996, the ARRL Board of Directors elected Mendelsohn as its First Vice President, where he served until 2000. The next year, he was again

elected as the Hudson Division Vice Director, serving through 2004.

Outside of his League activities, Mendelsohn was active both as the Communications Director of the New York City Marathon and, along with his wife Heidi, W2MLW, as the Game Day Frequency Coordinator (GDC) for the New York Jets. The November 2007 issue of QST featured Mendelsohn on its cover, along with an article about him and the GDC program. Mendelsohn was inducted into the CQ Hall of Fame last week for his contributions to the ARRL, the New York City Marathon and the National Football League. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/former-arrl-first-vice-president-steve-mendelsohn-w2ml-sk>.

==> SILENT KEY: FORMER ARRL ATLANTIC VICE DIRECTOR JIM MOZLEY, W2BCH (SK)

James M. Mozley, W2BCH -- who served as Vice Director of the ARRL Atlantic Division from 1986-89 -- died May 13. He was 89. A long-time resident of Camillus, New York, Mozley was active in the ARRL Western New York Section as an Assistant Section Manager and as an Official Emergency Station. He also served as an Official Observer from 1991-2004. He also served as the Western New York Section Emergency Coordinator when Bill Thompson, W2MTA, became the Section Communications Manager in 1980. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/former-arrl-vice-director-jim-mozley-w2bch-sk>.

==> + ARRL HEADQUARTERS TO CLOSE IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

ARRL Headquarters will be closed Monday, May 28 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. There will be no W1AW code practice or bulletin transmissions <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> that day. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Tuesday, May 29 at 8 AM (EDT). We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend!

==> AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: AMATEURS ASKED TO LISTEN FOR HORYU-2 SATELLITE

The Japanese HORYU-2 <http://kitsat.ele.kyutech.ac.jp/index_e_new.html> research satellite was launched May 17 at 1639 UTC as part of a mission that included the JAXA climate observation satellite Shizuku. HORYU-2 was built by students at the Kyushu Institute of Technology (KIT) and it carries the call sign JG6YBW. The satellite will conduct a variety of experiments including high-voltage power generation and space debris measurements. Amateurs have been asked to monitor HORYU-2's Morse code and 1200-baud AX.25 packet telemetry at 437.375 MHz. Telemetry decoding software is available for download <http://kitsat.ele.kyutech.ac.jp/Documents/ground_station/Horyu2%20Data_Analysis_Program_japanese.zip>.
To encourage hams to submit reports, KIT will conduct a monthly prize drawing. Details are available here <http://kitsat.ele.kyutech.ac.jp/Documents/ground_station/english/Receive_com

petition_eng.pdf>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- May 25 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- May 26-27 -- CQ WW WPX Contest (CW)
- May 27 -- QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint (local time); SARL Digital Contest
- May 27-28 -- Michigan QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint

Next week:

- June 1 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder; HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest
- June 2 -- Wake-Up! QRP Sprint
- June 2-3 -- Alabama QSO Party; Maritime QSO Party; 10-10
International Open Season PSK Contest; SEANET Contest
- June 5 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee
- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electro
nics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,

Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 4 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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130. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1815 - May 25 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-25 09:00:11 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120525090003.8624E33C8C@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 449
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1815 - May 25 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1815 with a release date of May 25th, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The 2012 Dayton Hamvention is in the history books, well take you there. Logbook Of The World logs an important milestone and you're never too old to learn a thing or two. These stories and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1815 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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HAM HAPPENINGS: DAYTON 2012

The city of Dayton, Ohio was invaded over the weekend of May 18, 19 and 20 by radio amateurs from all over the world for the Dayton Hamvention. By all accounts it was a huge success. The weather was, for the first time in many years, absolutely perfect. Sunny days in the upper 80s and clear nights in the 50s made for great strolls through the massive flea market. No matter what obscure or rare item you're looking for, odds are that someone in the flea market has it for sale. The old saying of "if you can't find it at Dayton it doesn't exist" is really true. Don Dubon, N6JRL is president of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, the sponsoring club for the Hamvention. He says this was an excellent year.

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Audio report only. Please download the audio version of this weeks newscast at www.arnewsline.org.

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Of course, it takes more than just DARA to put on a show of this size. It is truly a group effort.

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Audio report only. Please download the audio version of this weeks newscast at www.arnewsline.org.

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Always at the sharp end of the pileup is Bob Heil, K9EID.

--

Audio report only. Please download the audio version of this weeks newscast at www.arnewsline.org.

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This year, Bob added television host to his resume. Ham Nation is an Internet television show all about amateur radio and the crowds were even thicker around Audio Alley.

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Audio report only. Please download the audio version of this weeks newscast at www.arnewsline.org.

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Amateur Radio Newsline is honored to be a part of Ham Nation. Bringing the magic of our great hobby and service to a new and very receptive audience.

Amid the new product announcements was very exciting news that Icom is now the official amateur radio supplier of the Boy Scouts of America Jamboree On The air. Icom has assembled a number of self contained "go kits" containing everything needed to get on the air from JOTA and other scouting events consisting of an Icom IC 7200 and everything else needed to get on the air.

Kenwood debuted their latest and greatest, the TS-990. Phil Parton, N4DRO goes over some of the features.

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Expect the new TS-990 to begin shipping in the last quarter of this year. The retail list price hasn't been released yet, but Phil says between $5000 and $10,000 is a good ballpark. From the looks of it, it's worth every penny.

Another new rig debuted at Hamvention was the long awaited Heiberling PT-8000. As we hear from DH7JH, it is indeed finally a reality.

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So how much is the Heiberling PT-8000 you ask?

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Yes. He said $17,000. Not Euros, US Dollars. Time to start saving that spare change.

Over the years Amateur Radio Newsline has relied on one seasoned, some say grizzled, Dayton veteran to distill the Dayton experience down to it's true essence. That fabled old ham is none other than Chip Margelli, K7JA from CQ Publications.

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That , of course, just scratches the surface of Hamvention 2012. We'll have more from Dayton in next week's Amateur Radio Newsline report.

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WD6HFR repeater serving the region around Palomar, California.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: LIGHTSQUARED - THE NEVER ENDING STORY TAKES A NEW TURN

Is it an end to the story that never seems to end? Possibly as word that LightSquared Inc. has filed for Federal bankruptcy protection. This as it says that it will continue to try and resolve the concerns of U.S. regulators who frustrated the company's plan to deliver high-speed wireless to as many as 260 million people.

LightSquared, based in Reston, Virginia, listed assets of $4.48 billion and debt of $2.29 billion as of February 29th in a Chapter 11 filing May 14th in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Manhattan, New York. The filing followed intense negotiations with creditors, who had requested that the company's backer, Philip Falcone, step aside. Falcone and the current management team will remain with the company according to company spokesperson , Terry Neal.

But this might not be the last time we hear from LightSquared. In a statement, Falcone noted that the bankruptcy filing was not option the company embraced quickly or easily. Rather that it was necessary to protect LightSquared against creditors who were looking for a quick profit.

Falcone added that LightSquared remains committed to our original mission, and that he is steadfast in his belief that a path forward exists that will satisfy and benefit all constituencies.

LightSquared's plans for a high speed high speed broadband network hit a roadblock in February. That's when the FCC said it would withdraw preliminary approval for the company's network after government tests found that the signals would interfere with global-positioning systems. That decision followed a yearlong fight between LightSquared versus GPS users and providers.

The bottom line: If Lightsquared is successful in reorganizing under the Federal Bankruptcy Law, the never ending story could be with us for some time to come. (Published news reports)

**

RADIO EDUCATION: DXING FROM THE BLACK HOLE SEMINARS IN ILLINOIS IN SEPT

"DX'ing from the Black Hole is the title of a multi-session course to be presented this fall in conjunction with the 60th W9DXCC DX Convention to be held in Schaumburg, Illinois,

The W9DXCC convention committee has announced it will offer a 4 session class on Friday, September 14th to introduce ham operators to the excitement and fun of DXing.

The class has been designed for new and inexperienced DX'ers. Each session will cover a different aspect of DX'ing including operating practices, station design, chasing awards, QSL'ing and propagation from the area known as the Black Hole.

All presenters are accomplished DXers from the Northern Illinois DX Association. Between them they represent over 100 years of experience that includes participation in DXpedition operations to rare locations around the world and numerous awards. Please contact W9MU by e-mail to jhudson (at) wishcom (dot) net for further details and information." (W9DXCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: D-STAR AT THE 2012 LONDON OLYMPICS

The London GB7OK D-STAR repeater server has been updated with Jonathan Naylor, G4KLX's software and can now access all D-STAR reflectors. Also, four new D-Star nodes in London area have come on air just in time for 2012 Olympics. The four nodes are MB6IHF in West London, MB6INL in North London, MB6IOK in South East London and MB6SS located in South West London. All four nodes will give D-STAR access to all Dplus, XRF and DCS reflectors. (G1HIG)

**

RADIO MARKETPLACE: CW LAUNCHES INDUSTRY INSIDER NEWSLETTER

CQ Communications has announced the launch of the CQ Industry Insider, an e-mail newsletter for the hobby radio industry. The newsletter will report on news and trends in the amateur radio, scanning and listening marketplace, as well as company news and announcements, marketing tips and an idea exchange for spotlighting concepts for new products and services.

According to Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, the goal in publishing the Industry Insider is to help businesses in the amateur radio industry thrive and grow by sharing industry news and trends, marketing tips and product ideas.

The Editor of the CQ Industry Insider is Jason Feldman, who currently works with both Popular Communications and WorldRadio Online, and is Director of Pop'Comm's monitoring registration program. He came to CQ with considerable experience in producing e-mail trade newsletters.

Feldman will be backed up by Ad Manager Chip Margelli, K7JA; Editorial Director Rich Moseson, W2VU; Production Director Dottie Kehrwieder, and the rest of the CQ Communications staff.

The CQ Industry Insider is being distributed initially to companies and individuals already on the CQ advertising department e-mail list. Industry members not on the list who would like to be added should contact Chip Margelli by e-mail to ads@cq-amateur-radio.com. (CQ)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD MARKS 50,000 USERS

A Serbian ham is the holder of what can best be described as an electronic honor. On May 1st Dragan Pavlovic, YT3PDT, completed his registration process for Logbook of The World. As such he becamethe 50,000th person to take advantage of the ARRL's online QSL confirmation system.

According to ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N there are more than 3500 individuals from outside the US in the process of obtaining a digital certificate. There are also numerous hams here in the US who have started the certificate process, but not yet finished. (ARRL, WIA)

**

WORLDBEAT: WRTH A-12 SHORTWAVE BROADCAST SCHEDULES AVAILABLE

The World Radio and Television Editorial team has announced that the Summer 'A' season broadcasting schedules file is now available to download, free of charge, from the WRTH website. The 86 page file is approximately 4500 kB in size and contains the kind of information that SWL's need to keep on top of the summer DX season. To get a copy take your web browser to www.wrth.com and follow the link "Latest PDF Updates." (WRTH)

**

WORLDBEAT: EGYPT NATIONAL SOCIETY TO CONCENTRATE ON YOUTH EDUCATION

IARU Region 1 Youth Coordinator Lisa Leenders, PA2LS, reports that youth oriented amateur radio activities in Egypt are on the increase.

In a recent report, Leenders noted that the Egyptian Radio Amateurs Society or ERASD, has announced plans to promote and improve amateur radio services and youth activities in Egypt. This through the participation in more international and regional activities.

An ERASD prepared plan for three years is divided into four key points. These are Radio Activities, Education, Society's Station, Media. During the radio Activity the Egyptian Radio Amateurs Society will be providing educational programs and materials to promote amateur radio and develop the scientific and technical skills of youth in the hobby. (IARU Region 1, Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT: NORTHERN IRELAND BALLYMENA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TURNS 65

Northern Irelands Ballymena Times reports that the Ballymena Amateur Radio Club has recognized by Ballymena Borough Council for their 65 years of service to the community.

Recently, members of the club were invited to the Ballymena Mayor's office to be presented with a plaque for their achievement. Chairman Aubrey Kincaid gave a short speech to Mayor Hubert Nicholl explaining the club's history. According to Aubrey, the club was officially started back in 1947 by local radio enthusiasts and ex-servicemen. However it's thought a club was in operation and on the air as far back as 1929. (IRTS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: STUDENT PROJECT MAY FLY IN SPACE

GoErie.com reports on the work of students from Penn State Behrend who developed a super capacitor based energy storage device designed to replace the silver-zinc battery on ARISSat type satellites.

According to the report, when David Jesberger, Kathleen Nicholas and Jacob Sherk graduated on May 4th from Penn State Behrend, they left behind a finished senior project that could soon be headed into space. This is because senior engineering students at Behrend pitch ideas each year for projects they would like to tackle in their final year.

Nicholas, Jesberger and Sherk all bid for a chance to be part of a project for the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. The result of their work was a collection of fifteen super-capacitors linked together by a circuit board that also contained their names and the famed college mascot Nittany Lion paw print. You can read more about this student team effort on-line at tinyurl.com/supercap-battery. (Erie Times News, Southgate)

**

RADIO EDUCATION: IEEE BROADCAST TECHNIOLOGY SOCIETY EXTENDS ABSTRACT DEADLINE

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers' Broadcast Technology Society has announced an extension of the deadline for receiving abstracts of prospective papers to be presented at the organization's annual fall 2012 IEEE Broadcast Symposium. A final date of May 31st has been set for delivery of abstracts by prospective presenters.

Submissions are welcomed from broadcasters, researchers, developers, technology suppliers and service providers within the field of broadcasting. Submissions must indicate that abstract is for the 2012 IEEE Broadcast Symposium, and contain complete contact information, including the author's full name, affiliation, mailing address and telephone number. Abstracts should be limited to 1,000 words and should be sent via email to bts@ieee.org.

Proposals for panel discussions involving technology, applications, business models and policy-related issues and opportunities within the broadcasting industry are also being solicited. In addition, proposals for half-day tutorial sessions on broadcast technology topics are welcomed.

This year's symposium event will be held in Alexandria, Virginia from October 17th to the 19th. (RW)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: NEW JERSEY CLUB TO ACTIVATE SUBMARINE RADIO STATION

The Nutley Amateur Radio Society, of Nutley New Jersey, will be activating the radio room of the World War II Submarine the USS Ling. This as a part of the world-wide Museum Ships Weekend on June 2nd and 3rd.

The Ling is a Balao class fleet submarine, measuring 312 feet and is a permanent museum ship, berthed on the Hackensack River at Hackensack, New Jersey. As we go to air it is expected that amateur radio stations on over 75 museum ships will be on the air for this event. (K2DC)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: NYC MARATHON COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR AND FORMER NEWSLINE CONTRIBUTOR STEVE MENDELSOHN, W2ML - SK

For each of the 36 years that the New York City Marathon has been run, Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, could be found in the lead vehicle with the race director traveling along with the lead male runner and relaying messages via ham radio. But this coming November, Steve will not be there. This is because our longtime friend lost his valiant battle against Pancreatic Cancer the morning of May 23rd. Steve was only 67 when he died at his home in Dumont, New Jersey. And as our producer Bill Pasternak tells us, this for him is not an easy goodbye:

--

Its not easy to say goodbye to a friend, and in the case of someone whom you have known for a good part of your life. So while others will give you statistics and facts about what Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, did in his rather amazing life, I want to share a few personal thoughts.

I fist met Steve when he was working for one of the supply houses near what we New Yorkers called Radio Roe. Steve was a salesman and I had just saved enough to purchase the transmitter of my dreams. A Hallicrafters HT-40. Not the completed unit but rather the kit.

The truth be known, Steve tried to talk me out of the purchase saying there were better units for about the same price. But none of those covered 6 meters in addition to HF and so he made the sale. And as a result of that quick conversation we became friends for life. Only neither of us knew it at the time.

Fast forward the timeline to the late 1960's. In those days the ham radio meeting ground in New York City was the WA2SUR repeater on 2 meters operated by the late George LeDoux, K1TKJ. And it was there one afternoon that I heard some folks in QSO. One of the people had a familiar voice. His call was WA2DHF and his name was Steve. So I joined the QSO and quickly learned that this was the same Steve who had sold me the HT-40 kit almost a decade earlier. And I guess this is where it really all began.

There are a couple of personal stories involving Steve that I want to relate because they tell far more about Steve than anything purely ham radio, albeit both do have a ham radio connection.

The first revolves around the WA2ZWP repeater that a group of us Brooklynites put up in the late 1960's. We knew from the outset that we would be using a voice I-D but none of us knew how to properly interface an automotive 8 track player to an RCA Carfone transmitter. But Steve Mendelsohn did and he spent several evenings with this reporter explaining how to make the transistors in the tape player talk to the tubes in the repeater transmitter with no distortion and not so loud as to cover up those who were involved in a QSO. Steve knew audio technology and gladly shared it with myself and others.

But the most important Steve Mendelsohn story is the one that completely changed my life. It was in the winter of 1970. I was dating a gal named Sharon Wagner and every Sunday morning found me winding my way from Brooklyn out to Valley Stream to pick up the lady to go - well - go somewhere or do something. Be it just lunch and a movie or whatever, I would pick her up and we would be off to that proverbial somewhere. And it also became a ritual for everyone on WA2SUR to say hello to Sharon and for her to say hi in return. This with me in control of the transceiver. A Regency HR-2 as I recall.

Well this one Sunday after we had all said our hello's via WA2SUR, Steve says something like: ".you two have been going out for months. When are you going to ask the girl to marry you?"

At first I hemmed and hawed a bit looking for an excuse, but there was none to be had. Steve had put me into a corner where it was either catch the fish or cut bait and run. I knew that I was in love with the lady, so with all of New York hamdom listening in on 146.73 MHz, I asked Sharon to change her last name from Wagner to Pasternak. She immediately accepted and that September Sharon and I said "I Do."

If not for Steve, I do not know if I would have asked Sharon or any gal to become my wife. But thanks to him, I was forced to make a decision that was definitely the right one. 40 years so far and headed toward 41.

Over the decades Steve remained a true friend. Even after I moved West, we were never very long out of contact. When e-mail came along, it was even easier.

I still remember sitting on the phone and having him tell me about the fate-full meeting that got him involved in coordinating ham radio communications for the New York City Marathon. A position he loved and kept up for some 37 years.

And especially that one evening at the Dayton Hamvention way back in the 1980's where Steve engineered and edited one of our Westlink Report newscasts that was anchored by the late broadcast legend Jean Shepherd, K2ORS. A newscast recorded on a modified Sony portable reel to reel recorder that Steve had found out in his garage and made to work once again just for this occasion.

Theres so much more that I could relate if only we had the time because to me, Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, was more than just another voice on the air. For the better part of five decades he was an important part of my life. He was my friend, and I will miss him.

Im Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, and I dedicate this weeks newscast to my friend, the late Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML.

73 old buddy. I know we will meet once again in the future on the other side of the great eatherial abyss.

--

According to Bill, its impossible to tell the story of Steve Mendelsohn's amazing life and career in a short news item like this. However several print publications have. This includes a lengthy and well written tribute by the ARRL that can be found at tinyurl.com/w2ml-sk and a New York Times item on Steve's career as a communications coordinator at tinyurl.com/marathon-race-radio.

Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML is survived by his wife Heidi, W2MLW. As we go to air, memorial survives for Steve have not yet been announced. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

DX

In DX, word that F5IRO has received his Ugandan callsign 5X5RO. He will be operating CW and PSK during his spare time until June 8th. QSL via F8DFP.

OK7MT, OK5MM, and OK2PP have announced to be oprerational stroke P4 through May 31. They will sign P40H in the upcoming W-P-X CW Contest on May 26th and 27th. QSL via OK7MT.

Lastly, RK4FF should be on the air from Senegal as 6V7S through May 28th. Listen out for him on CW, SSB and RTTY on 80 through 10 meters. QSL via RK4FF.

(Above from various DX News Sources)

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THAT FINAL ITEM: 90 YEAR OLD UK HAM GETS MASTERS DEGREE

And finally this week, a story on higher education that involved a ham radio operator.

Bert Gladwin G3FVO, a former MI 6 electronics engineer, has become the United Kingdom's oldest new graduate at the age of 90. This after graduating with a Masters degree from the University of Buckingham.

In his youth Gladwin left school at 14 and worked as a delivery boy. During World War II he served with the Royal Air Force and developed an interest in radio communications. After the war he worked for the Marconi company and obtained his amateur radio license.

Gladwin then worked for the Foreign Office setting up communications systems for British embassies around the world. He embarked on his degree in Intelligence History and Bletchley Park Studies at the age of 89 together with his wife, who was then 77.

G3FVO is not new to being a senior in taking advanced higher education courses. At the age of 60, he decided to undertake obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. By the time he was 70 he had also completed a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology.

Bert Gladwin's advice to anyone considering a degree is to go for it at any age. He says that it's never too late to learn.

More is on-line at tinyurl.com/grad-at-90 (University of Buckingham)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

A reminder that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Full details and a downloadable nominating form are on our website at arnewsline.org/yhoty.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in Southern Mississippi, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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131. FCC Daily Digest 05/25/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-25 16:32:43 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-521746-2012.05.25-11.23.28--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 450
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 102 May 25, 20
12
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[...]

AMENDMENT OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES TO PROVIDE SPECTRUM FOR THE OPERATION
OF MEDICAL BODY AREA NETWORKS. FCC Dedicates Spectrum Enabling Medical Bo
dy Area Networks to Transform Patient Care, Lower Health Care Costs, and Sp
ur Wireless Medical Innovation. by R&O. (Dkt No. 08-59). Action by: the
Commission. Adopted: 05/24/2012 by FNPRM. (FCC No. 12-54). OET http://hr
aunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A2.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A3.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A4.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A5.doc
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http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A3.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A4.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A5.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A6.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A2.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A3.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A4.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A5.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-54A6.txt

[...]

132. Portable Azimuth & Elevation Rotor

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-31 03:25:55 UTC
From: Tom Horne <hornetd@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <601b4ab5-fa3c-42a1-b4fa-591040163051@n16g2000vbn.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 251

Does anyone make a portable Azimuth and Elevation Rotor that could be used for showcasing amateur radio to the public. I would think that young people might find it interesting to see and hear a satellite contact being made.
--
Tom, W3TDH

133. FCC Daily Digest 05/31/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-31 15:38:33 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-521795-2012.05.31-11.02.08--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 252
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 105 May 31, 20
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[...]

Report No: 47749 Released: 05/31/2012. BROADCAST ACTIONS. MB http://hra
unfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314364A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314364A2.txt

[...]

134. The ARRL Letter for May 31, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-05-31 18:37:33 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120531180543.657BA26CD5C@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 253
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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May 31, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- FCC News: FCC Expands Part 95 MedRadio Rules to Allow Devices in
2360-2400 MHz Band
- MARS: House Armed Services Committee "Urges" MARS Coordination
- On the Air: Have Some Fun in the 2012 ARRL June VHF QSO Party
- Amateur Radio Fun: Announcing the Winners of the 2012 QST Video
Contest
- Solar Update
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

There will be no ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>
on Thursday, May 31. The Audio News will return on Thursday, June 7.

==> FCC NEWS: FCC EXPANDS PART 95 MEDRADIO RULES TO ALLOW DEVICES IN
2360-2400 MHZ BAND

In a First Report and Order and a Further Notice of Proposed
Rulemaking (ET 08-59) released on May 24, the FCC decided to expand the
Part 95 Personal Radio Service rules to allow medical devices to
operate on a secondary basis in the 2360-2400 MHz band. These devices
-- called Medical Body Area Networks (MBAN) -- provide a way for health
care facilities to monitor their patients via wireless networks.
Because use of these frequencies will be on a secondary basis, MBAN
stations will not be allowed to cause interference to -- and must
accept interference from -- primary services, including radio amateurs
who operate on a primary basis in the 2390-2395 MHz and 2395-2400 MHz
bands. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-expands-part-95-medradio-rules-to-allow-devices
-in-2360-2400-mhz-band>.

==> MARS: HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE "URGES" MARS COORDINATION
```

On May 18, the US House of Representatives approved HR 4310, The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013. This bill authorizes appropriations for military activities and prescribes military personnel strengths for Fiscal Year 2013. When the House Armed Services Committee sent the bill to the House, it included language in support of the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) and called for the three MARS branches -- Army, Air Force and Navy/Marine Corps -- to be brought under one umbrella. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/house-armed-services-committee-urges-mars-coordination>.

==> ON THE AIR: HAVE SOME FUN IN THE 2012 ARRL JUNE VHF QSO PARTY

There will be lots of RF generated on 6 meters and up the weekend of June 9-11 during the 2012 ARRL June VHF QSO Party. While many amateurs think of the VHF+ bands as a "local" band for public service, emergency communications or even a bit of fun on FM repeaters, weak-signal VHF+ enthusiasts know better. Even with a modest station, it's possible to work hundreds -- or even thousands -- of miles on the VHF bands during a good opening.

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, is a big VHF enthusiast. "In more than 25 years of Amateur Radio, weak-signal work on 6 and 2 meters remains the most fun and intriguing activity I do," he said. "There is nothing like a good VHF opening -- with interesting propagation characteristics like Sporadic-E, tropospheric ducting, aurora and even meteor scatter and moonbounce -- VHF offers QSO opportunities that HF can never satisfy." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/have-some-fun-in-the-2012-arrl-june-vhf-qso-party>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO FUN: ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS OF THE 2012 QST VIDEO CONTEST

The votes have been tallied for the 2012 QST video contest and the winners chosen!

- First Place, Amateur: Erin King, AK4JG: Erin -- along with her mentor and members of the Columbus (Georgia) Amateur Radio Club (CARC <http://www.w4cvy.org/>) -- sent a weather balloon and a high-definition video camera to an altitude of over 90,000 feet. They tracked the balloon across the Georgia countryside using APRS and managed to recover the payload from the branches of a towering pine tree. The resulting video is nothing short of spectacular.
- Second Place, Amateur: Jim Wright, N2GXJ: Jim's video Discovering the Fun does an outstanding job of capturing the thrill of obtaining an Amateur Radio license and then discovering the pleasures of HF digital operating with PSK31. When Jim unfurls his ARRL DX Century Club certificate at the end of the video, you can't help but smile.
- Third Place, Amateur: Jared Gohlke, N4JMG: Jared chronicles a Rowan Amateur Radio Society (RARS <http://www.rowanars.org/>) transmitter hunt among the woods and cotton fields of North Carolina. The result is both informative and humorous. After watching this video you may want to try a "foxhunt" of your own!

- Professional: Gary Pearce, KN4AQ: Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, is a professional videographer and the creative force behind Amateur Radio Video News (ARVN <http://arvideonews.com/>). Gary took his equipment and crew to the 2012 Orlando Hamcation for a glimpse of one of the most popular Amateur Radio gatherings in the southeastern United States.

You can watch the winning videos in the digital edition of the July issue of QST when it becomes available in a few weeks. If you can't wait, enjoy the videos right now on the web <http://www.arrl.org/winners>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "All spheres, grown, ungrown, small, large, Suns, moons, planets <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aK6k6tt1Z4>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers sank more than 28 points this week (nearly 26 percent) to 81.9, while the average daily solar flux declined more than 16 points to 111.6. No new sunspots appeared since May 25. The short term outlook is for lower solar activity, with the solar flux peaking around 120 on June 5-15 and July 1-12. The latest prediction has solar flux at 110 on May 31-June 2, 115 on June 3-4, 120 on June 5-15, then 115 on June 16-18, 110 on June 19-26 and 105 on June 27-28. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on May 31-June 2, then 10, 15, 18, 15 and 8 on June 3-7, 5 on June 8-11, 8 on June 12-13, 5 on June 14-17, and 15, 12 and 8 on June 18-20, and then back down to 5 on June 21-25. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, June 1. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Ralph Vaughan Williams' A Sea Symphony <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_Symphony> (II On the Beach at Night Alone), taken from Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass> (Book XIX <http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Leaves_of_Grass/Book_XIX#On_the_Beach_at_Night_Alone>,
verse 8).

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- June 1 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder; HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest
- June 2 -- Wake-Up! QRP Sprint
- June 2-3 -- Alabama QSO Party; Maritime QSO Party; 10-10 International Open Season PSK Contest; SEANET Contest
- June 5 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

Next week:

- June 8 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- June 9 -- Portugal Day Contest; Asia-Pacific Sprint (SSB)
- June 9-10 -- DRCG Long Distance Contest (RTTY); VK Shires Contest; GACW WWSA CW DX Contest; REF DDFM 6 Meter Contest

- June 9-11 -- ARRL June VHF QSO Party
<http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party>
- June 13 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint; NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- June 13-14 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- June 1-3 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-3>,
Seaside, Oregon
- June 2 -- ARRL Georgia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-section-convention-atlanta-hamfest-1>,
Marietta, Georgia
- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>,
Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers,
Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville,
Tennessee
- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electro
nics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,

Portland, Oregon
- August 4 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

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135. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1816 - June 1 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-01 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120601090003.089CF33C94@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 254
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1816 - June 1 2012

Note: This week is an extended Amateur Radio Newsline report running 35 minutes, 37 seconds and contains three breaks at 9:56, 19:12 and 25:46 respectively. Actual newscast begins now:

--
Cue tone
--

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1816 with a release date of June 1, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T.

The following is a Q-S-T. Italian hams called out as earthquakes hit near the city of Bologna; South African hams ready to respond after mine disaster, more on Icom's support of the Boy Scouts of America and a new plateau in solar energy is reached down-under. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1816 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMS RESPOND AFTER QUAKE HITS ITALY

It has been called the region's worst quake since the 1300's. Amateur radio was one of the services requested to help in the quake's aftermath. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, reports:

--

Striking on Sunday, May 20th at 4.04 am local time the quake's epicenter was located about 35 kilometers north of the Italian city of Bologna at a relatively shallow depth of 5 kilometers. Its intensity measured a 6.0 on the Richter scale as it shook the nation's densely populated northeast region. Homes, factories and some historic church steeples were all felled by the force of the temblor.

There was a 5.8 magnitude aftershock on Tuesday, May 29th at 9 am local time in the province of Modena, about 22 miles north-west of Bologna. This aftershock caused more buildings to collapse across the region, leaving at least 17 people dead, more than 350 injured, and 12 people reported missing.

Jim Linton, VK3PC, is the Chairman of the IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee. He relays an IARU Region 1 report that Italian radio amateurs were called on to responded in the wake of the disaster. According to VK3PC, the voluntary group RNRE was requested to make several mobile units available to respond as needed, due to the continuing seismic activity. No H-F frequencies were in use during the initial quake with all communications apparently taking place on the VHF and UHF bands.

IARU Region 1 now reports that 7060 KHz is in use by IQ1HQ which is the RNRE and IQ0TK which is the Rome Civil Protection Department. There are also VHF links in the area at this time. Following a request from the Italian Civil Protection department, the RNRE have sent one mobile unit with five radio amateurs to the affected area and two more units are ready to go if requested.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, near Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

As if this quake was not enough, another 4.3-magnitude earthquake was registered on May 28th in Southern Italy. The European Mediterranean Seismological Centre reports the epicenter was located 9 kilometers west of the town of Castrovillari. At airtime, There is no information about any injuries or damages caused by the latest earthquake. (VK3PC, G0DUB, KB3TZD)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMNET NORTHERN CAPE RESPONDS TO MINE DISASTER

Hams from South Africa's Hamnet are being asked to prepare for activation in the wake of a mining disaster in that region.

Carel Oberholzer, ZS3OBE, of Hamnet Northern Cape says they are potentially in need of assistance to provide communication support for the operation to rescue the trapped miners or remove their remains from a diamond mine near Kleinzee.

According to ZS3OBE, communications to Springbok which is the nearest urban hub is problematic and Hamnet has been requested to assist.

Oberholzer says that operators are needed to assist in providing communications between Springbok and the Kleinzee mine location. This is a distance of about 80 kilometers.

If activation occurs, the operation is expected to last for two to three weeks. Hamnet will likely two person teams on a rotational basis to man a relay point on a high point somewhere in between the mine and the city.

Oberholzer describes the situation as fluid at this stage. As such the Hamnet response is only in the preparation phase.

We will have a follow-up on this story in a future Amateur Radio Newsline report.

(Hamnet)

**

HAMVENTION 2012: TRULY A MIND BLOWING EVENT

The numbers are in and this years Dayton Hamvention was once again a mind blowing event with some 25,000 hams attending to see new product launches from most of the major amateur radio suppliers. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, was on scene and has more:

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When Hara Arena opened its doors at 9 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, May 18th thousands of hams swarmed in. All were eager to see the latest and greatest gear that manufacturers and vendors had to offer. And they were not disappointed.

Last week we covered a couple of the new radios from Kenwood and Heiberling. This week we will take a look at what Yaesu had to offer. In their case it was both a new HF transceiver and a new method of digital audio for use on VHF and UHF bands. Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, is Yaesu's spokesman:

--

K7BV: "The surprise that no one knew about including me was the FTDX-3000 which is an HF and 50 MHz 200 watt radio that uses the fantastic receiver that we developed for the FTDX-5000. So now for $3000 someone can have the receiver performance of a $5000 FTDX-5000. Of coarse you don't get the second receiver and you don't get 200 watts; you only get 100; but there's that rig that so many people have been waiting for."

--

But that was not all. For the world at 2 meters and above Yaesu introduced its long awaited digital audio hand-held that uses a different modulation scheme from either Icom's D-Star or Alinco's ITU-TV.32 protocols. Again, Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV:

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K7BV" "We have a new digital handheld that uses C4FM FFDMA protocol and its going to be a whole new venture of digital into amateur radio with many, many of the capabilities that some of the other existing services can't offer. We introduced the hand held for that today and the repeater and the mobile will be coming later on in the year."

--

In simpler terms, the introduction of the new Yaesu digital radio is kind of the ham radio equivalent of the 1970's Betamax versus VHS

clash, but this time it will be at least 3-way affair. Four ways if you count the proponents of the P-25 protocol with recycled police and fire radios that has an ever growing following among the technical experimenters in the hobby.

Turning to the social aspect of Hamvention, the theme of the 2012 Hamvention was Internationally Connected with Germany's Deutscher Amateur Radio Club having been selected as the 2012 Hamvention Club of the Year. Mitch Wolfson, DJ0QN, a former California ham who moved to Germany more than three decades ago was one of several DARC representatives who came to Dayton:

--

DJ0QN: "Well that was quite a surprise. We were really pleased to hear that DARA selected us as the Club of the Year. We haven't done anything different the past couple of years that we have done the last 40 years. We have continued to represent Germany and also help amateur radio in all of Europe and all of IARU Region 1. We did a lot of work into making sure that we supported amateur radio in Germany by supporting it against issues like RFI problems that have been caused by new devices such as PLC and have done a lot of work in that area."

--

Also on hand for this year's international event were representatives of the Japan Amateur Radio League, the Qatar Amateur Radio Society and the Radio Society of Great Britain. In addition, some of the leaders of the International Amateur Radio Union were on hand. This included IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, and Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD. They were there to meet and greet visitors. All of the international societies were located in the ARRL EXPO in the Ballarena Hall that also housed more than 20 exhibits staffed by ARRL representatives. Among the new ARRL booths for 2012 was an exhibit introducing the digital edition of QST magazine.

We wish we had more time to tell you about Hamvention 2012,. But there are other stories we have to cover. So for now, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in Southern Mississippi, for the Amateur Radio Newsline.

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For a visual highlight tour of Hamvention 2012 we suggest that you visit twit.tv/hn and watch Episode 49 of Bob Heil's show Ham Nation called the Dayton Experience. Also there are two new Hamvention 2012 music videos on You Tube produced by kit building expert Joe Eisenberg, K0NEB. One is called Hamvention 2012 "Band On The Run" and the other is titled Hamvention 2012 "Gimme Dat Ding." To find them just put the word joehusker into the search YouTube search line. We think you will enjoy them both. (ARNewsline, RSGB, others)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WM7K repeater serving Grants Pass, Oregon.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO FOR YOUTH: MORE ON THE BSA AND ICOM ALLIANCE

As we mentioned briefly last week, one of the biggest surprises to come out of Hamvention 2012 was an announcement that Icom and the Boy Scouts of America are joining forces to give scouts a new and exciting access point to ham radio. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramovich, NT3V, is here with some more information on this new alliance:

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While some might say the new partnership between Icom and the BSA is historic, the key players who hammered out the deal simply say it was a natural progression that will expose tens of thousands of Scouts and their leaders to the fun, the excitement and the challenges found in amateur radio.

Jim Wilson, K5ND, who coordinates the annual Jamboree on the Air for the Boy Scouts of America each October, was introduced to Ray Novak, N9JA, division manager for amateur and receiver products at Icom America in Seattle, by a past staff member at the K2BSA operations at the national Boy Scouts Jamboree.

Wilson, who is coordinating the K2BSA operations for the 2013 BSA jamboree at The Summit in West Virginia, says he was initially looking for a commitment on equipment which Icom has been loaning the jamboree operations over the years. But Wilson had a different idea this time... "Donate the equipment, don't loan it to us, but donate it to the jamboree and after the jamboree, we'll move it to local councils so they can put it to use and it'll be in use year-round," Wilson says. Wilson says his dialogue with Novak explored other areas where the BSA and amateur radio are in sync - such as Radio merit badge and Jamboree on the Air.

>From that came the proposal from Icom's Novak to put HF radios, microphones and an antenna, in the hands of the BSA in the form of "loaner kits" to send out to Scout councils across the country.

"One is a long-range loan of up to 12 months that a Scout council can put in place while they're developing donations to support a longer term station," Wilson says. "But, give them a station that they can show how it works, they can get the Scouts excited, they can get local donors excited. "And, then another type of loan station - which we're calling an event loan station. So, if you've got a Radio Merit Badge workshop where you'd like to put in place one of these stations, you can apply and we'll get it in the queue, see if it works out and get a

station out there for a week or two weeks or what have you."

Novak, who has been helping set up equipment needs for the past few national jamboree operations at Fort AP Hill in Virginia, says he didn't want to wait a year for the next jamboree to get gear into the hands of Scouts and leaders for special events like JOTA or camporee demos or Radio merit badge workshops.

"I'm not as concerned about the Boy Scouts getting licensed as I am with them seeing that amateur radio is actually a fun thing and they take home with them and share with their parents and others what fun they had talking into a microphone and transmitting thousands of miles away to talk to another Boy Scout or another youth the same age instead of sitting there and texting," Novak says.

The BSA's Wilson says he confided in Novak his vision for the new Scout jamboree location in West Virginia and the idea of eventually establishing a permanent footprint for amateur radio there. That turned into something Wilson described as unexpected - an offer of repeaters for the site.

"A 2-meter repeater and 2, 70 centimeter repeaters," Wilson says of the Icom offer. "The 2-meter and 70 centimeter will be analog and we'll have a D-Star repeater also at 70 centimeters." And, Novak says there is more, much more being worked out for HF, VHF, EchoLink, Foxhunting, and antennas for the K2BSA operations and Radio merit badge for the 2013 jamboree. "Right now we're at just the very beginning of working out all the details and luckily we've got about a full year before we really need to have everything in place for the Summit and the jamboree," Novak says. "But that one year will go fast."

Wilson, who is excited to see this vision unfolding for the BSA and amateur radio, says it wouldn't have been possible without the people at the local Scout councils who have contributed to a seven-fold increase in the number of Radio merit badges earned by Scouts in recent years. And, some of those Scouts, he says, are going on to the next level - thanks to the interest spurred by the merit badge...

"There are some committed Scouters and amateur radio operators putting in place merit badge workshops, offering Jamboree on the Air experiences, getting youth engaged in amateur radio and then they're going on and earning their Radio merit badge," Wilson says. "And, I'll bet a fair percent of those are going on and earning their Technician licenses."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

All things considered, the agreement between the Boy Scouts of America and Icom could easily lead to a lot of new young voices on the air and that would be very good news for all of amateur radio. Also it begs

the obvious question of whether or not it will lead to similar agreements between other equipment suppliers and youth groups here in the United States or possibly elsewhere in the world. On this one only time will tell. (ARNewsline, NT3V)

**

RADIO LAW: OHIO ENACTS PRB-1 LIKE LAW TO PROTECT HAMS

Good news for Ohio hams. They now have P R B One-like antenna protection. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the Newsroom with more:

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Ohio hams now have antenna and support structure assurance. On May 15, Ohio Governor John Kasich signed a bill, granting comprehensive protections and rights to amateur radio operators in that state.

HB 158 codifies the federal restrictions on the local zoning of amateur station antenna structures, thereby preserving Amateur Radio Service communications as a Homeland Security resource. It also places the burden of proof for compliance on the zoning authority.

The new law states that: "Any legislative authority that denies an application for approval of an amateur station antenna structure shall state the reasons for the denial and shall, on appeal, bear the burden of proving that the authority's actions are consistent with this section."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

This language of the new Ohio law removes the burden of proof from the amateur radio operator and places it on the legislative authority. And that's very good news for hams living in the Buckeye State. (ARRL)

**

RADIO LAW: NEW FCC COMMISSIONERS SET TO WORK

New FCC Commissioners Jessica Rosenworcel and Ajit Pai have been sworn-in and have officially begun their work.

Rosenworcel, a Democrat, takes the seat held by former Commissioner Michael Copps. Pai, a former Senate staffer as well who most recently worked at Jenner & Block, is a Republican who takes the seat vacated last spring by former Commissioner Meredith Baker.

Pai has already announced his personnel with Matthew Berry as his chief of staff. In the past Berry has been the FCC's general counsel. He was most recently at the law firm of Patton Boggs.

Gene Fullano has been named acting legal advisor for Commissioner Pai. He was most recently associate chief of the FCC's Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau. (RW)

**

RADIO LAW: KAPLAN TO LEAVE FCC WTB CHIEF POSITION

The Genachowski lead FCC is losing another bureau chief. This with word that Rick Kaplan is stepping down as chief of the regulatory agency's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

Kaplan has been at the FCC since 2009, working in several posts. This included a stint as Chief of Staff to Commissioner Mignon Clyburn.

According to a report from Radio World, Ruth Milkman, who preceded Kaplan as chief, will return to the bureau in that role after a year as special counsel to the chairman for Innovation in Government.

The changes are effective in mid-June. (RW)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: TOO MANY CB SETS CAUSES HOUSE FIRE

Tampa Bay Online reports that having too many CB radios connected to one power source likely sparked a fire. One that caused tens of thousands of dollars of damage at a St. Petersburg, Florida home.

Fire investigators think the blaze was started by too many citizens band radios connected to an overloaded extension cord. Damage is estimated at $35,000 to $50,000.

The owner of the home told the newspaper that he and his family were watching television when the fire started. They evacuated and no one was injured. The Red Cross helped the family find temporary lodging.

And less we forget, investigators say that the home where the fire occurred reportedly had no working smoke detectors. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/cb-house-fire. (KB5TJI)

**

WORLDBEAT: CB RADIO BOMB SCARE IN THE UK

The BBC reports that a suspicious electronic device triggered a bomb alert in the city of Surrey. According to the news agency, the device was found after reports of suspicious activity near the Maultway, Camberley at about 10:00 British Standard Time on Monday, the 21st.

Following examination by army bomb disposal experts Surrey police issued a statement saying that the unit turned out to be a pirate radio F.M broadcast transmitter or repeater for a citizen or pirate band radio station. You can read the entire story on-line at tinyurl.com/cb-bomb-scare. (BBC)

**

RADIO READING: NEW E-BOOK FOR NEWCOMERS OR RETURNING HAMS

21 Things to Do After You Get Your Amateur Radio License is a new book by Daniel M Romanchik, KB6NU, that is now available for electronic reading on the Kindle and Nook. Written for the new ham or those amateurs who have not really been all that active late, its 21 chapters cover just about every aspect of the hobby as it is today. Included are such topics as how to locate an Elmer, how to buy a radio, set up a shack and much more. Also covered are the social aspects of the hobby including participation in clubs, hamfests and the like. The Kindle edition priced under three dollars is available from amazon.com. (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: K6VVA IOTA NORTHERN LATITUDE OPERATION POSTPONED

Some names in the news. Rick Hilding, K6VVA, has announced that his Northern Latitudes Islands on the Air DXpedition has been rescheduled for July of 2013. This in the hope of gaining better propagation during that time period.

As explained in his announcement, the far Northern Latitude has additional propagation factor complications. So in evaluating the total picture, a pause was deemed necessary to maximize possibilities for all Islands on the Air chasers to make contacts. You can follow planning progress on-line at www.k6vva.com/iota/na172 (K6VVA)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: GW8TGS CARRIES OLYMPIC TOURCH

A big treat for a United Kingdom ham as William Williams, GW8TGS , had the honor of being the Olympic Torchbearer as part of the team carrying the flame through the city of Aberystwyth.

Williams turn came on May 27th starting at around 18.14 GMT and arriving at Vicarage Fields half an hour later.

Having taken part in several charity runs and raising over 15,000 Pounds for charities, GW8TGS was nominated by the Rotary Club of Aberystwyth for his fund raising and his other voluntary work.

Williams says he feels honored have taken part in this once-in-a-lifetime event. (GB2RS, Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: RESULTS OF ARRL SPRING 2012 SM ELECTION ANNOUNCED

Of the nine Section Manager elections this spring, two were decided by member voting. Ballots were counted on May 22nd at ARRL Headquarters. The incumbent Indiana Section Manager, John Poindexter, W3ML decided not to run for a new term of office. Two radio amateurs vied for the open position, with Lou Everett Sr, WA5LOU, being declared the winner with 596 votes. His opponent Brian Jenks, W9BGJ, received 429 votes.

In Northern Florida, incumbent Section Manager Paul Eakin, KJ4G, was re-elected with 627 votes. His opponent Gary Alberstadt, KA3FZO, received 434 votes. Eakin has served as Section Manager since 2008.

California's Santa Clara Valley will also have a new Section Manager with Brandon Bianchi, NI6C, taking over from Phil Steffora, K6TT, who decided not to run for a new term of office. Bianchi is currently serving as an Assistant Section Manager and did not face an opponent for the Section Manager position.

All other incumbent ARRL Section Managers running for re-election did not face opposition and were declared elected for their next terms of office beginning this July 1st. (ARRL)

**

BREAK 3

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: CUBAN HAMS AWARDED NEW DIGIMODES

Pavel Costa, CO7WT, says that following both a national debate followed by legal avenues that the government of Cuba has approved the use of new digital modes for all Cuban radio amateurs. With this regulatory change Cuban hams are now permitted use of Domino, Contestia, Olivia, M-F-S-K, J-T-65, and almost all variants of PSK. More important says CO7WT, this approval has set up a mechanism to apply for other new digital modes by any Cuban hams. Previous legislation restricted Cuban radio amateurs early digital modes such as to PSK31, QPSK31, AMTOR, PACKET and RTTY. (CO7WT)

**

WORLDBEAT: RSGB BACKS OFCOM IN PROPOSED ANTI INTERFERENCE LAW

The Radio Society of Great Britain has offered a formal response in support telecommunication regulator Ofcom's inquiry on proposed new anti-interference regulations. Laws to provide the telecommunications regulator with powers to take action in cases of interference from non-wireless telecommunications apparatus.

The RSGB says that while the immediate proposal is to implement the new regulations in time for the upcoming Olympic Games. It adds that this action by Ofcom highlights the point that the RSGB has advocated on many occasions. That being the need for Ofcom to have statutory powers in cases of serious interference to the spectrum from non-wireless apparatus.

Ofcom has indicated that it intends to prepare these regulations for ongoing use after the Olympic Games. Part of the RSGB response emphasizes the need for such regulatory enforcement powers. (RSGB)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: HAMS WORLWIDE ASKED TO MONITOR FOR THE HORYU-2 SATELLITE

Hams world-wide are being asked to monitor for Japan's HORYU-2 satellites Morse code beacon and 1200-baud AX.25 packet telemetry at 437.375 MHz.

Japan's HORYU-2 is a research satellite was launched May 17th as part of a mission that also included the JAXA climate observation satellite Shizuku.

HORYU-2 was built by students at the Kyushu Institute of Technology and identifies using the call sign JG6YBW. Telemetry decoding software is available for download at tinyurl.com/horyu-software. This is an executable program so you might want to be certain that it will run on your computer before installing it.

More about the Horyu satellite itself is on-line at tinyurl.com/horyu-sat. (ARRL, AMSAT)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT SATELLITE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO NASA

The AMSAT North America Board of Directors has announced that the organization was a partner in a pair of Phase-2 NASA Edison Program proposals that were successfully submitted on Tuesday May 22nd. Due to the highly competitive nature of this program, no additional information can be released at this time. However, if selected, these proposals would provide AMSAT and its partners with the funds to construct and launch new amateur radio satellites. NASA intends to announce the winning proposals in the Fall of 2012. (ANS)

**

PROPAGATION: NEW UK TO NORTH AMERICA 2 METER BEACON GB3WGI COMING SOON

A new United-Kingdom based trans-Atlantic beacon is coming to the 2 meter band. Located at Lough Navar Forest in Northern Ireland at a height of 1145 feet above average terrain, the GB3WGI beacon will have a clear take off over the sea toward North America. The system will radiate on 144.487MHz initially with an Effective Radiated Power 100 Watts relative to a dipole, with plans to increase this if licensing allows.

This new propagation beacon is being made possible thanks to the generous donation of a transmitter by Brian Justin, WA1ZMS, the man behind the US 70MHz beacon, and United Kingdom Notice of Variation holder, Gordon Curry GI6ATZ who is providing the site and site services. No date has been announced for the installation of the beacon, but plans are well under way.

The Notice of Variation is the U-K equivalent to a United States Special Temporary Authority. It was issued by telecommunications regulator Ofcom on May 18th. (G4BAO)

**

DX

In DX, UA4WHX, who just went QRT as JY8VB has been spotted with the Palestinian call E40VB on 12 meters. Details of the stay are not known. QSL via home call.

OH2PM will be operating as TC2X from Istanbul at TA2KN which is the Turkish Scouting and Guiding Federation Club station in Umraniye. QSL this operation via OH2BH.

ZL3CW is working as TX5CW from Noumea, French Caledonia. QSL via his home call as well.

The special event station 8N1TDU is active from Japan's Tokyo Denki University Campus until December 31. QSL this one as directed on the air.

Lastly, HA1ZH is active in all modes and on all bands until December 31st. This on the occasion of his 50th jubilee as a ham QSL information is at www.ha1zh.hu

(Above from various DX news sources

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THAT FINAL ITEM: SOLAR POWER BREAKTHROUGH

And finally this week, word of a major efficiency breakthrough in the field of renewable energy from the sun. Heres WIA Newsman Graham Kemp, VK4BB, with the details:

--

The world's most successful solar cell breaks the 20% barrier

Aussie researchers teamed with Sun-tech Power to create Pluto Technology. The solar cells reached a production capacity last year of 0.5 gigawatts, worth more than 1 billion US dollars a year. This is enough to power 300,000 average homes that typically have eight solar panels on them for at least 25 years.

The Pluto Technology won a 2012 Collaborative Innovation Award Wednesday night at the Cooperative Research Centers Association conference in Adelaide.

For the Amateur radio Newsline, I'm Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News in Australia.

--

Don't get your hopes up yet to replace your mains powered ham gear with these new solar cells. Further research and marketing is needed to make them a world-wide everyday home power source. (WIA News)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

Before we go a quick note that the nominating period for the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award closed at midnight on May 30th. Over the coming days the submissions will be sent to the judging committee and a winner will be announced in a few weeks.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Fred Vobbe, W9HDU, in Lima, Ohio, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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136. The ARRL Letter for June 7, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-07 21:44:39 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120607184357.5DDB92DBBD7@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 255
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
****************************************

June 7, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- + Check Your Mailbox for the July 2012 Issue of QST
- + Silent Key: Former "The World Above 50 MHz" Conductor Gene
Zimmerman, W3ZZ (SK)
- ARRL in Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?
- + ARRL Board of Directors Approves 9 cm Band Plan
- + Papers Requested for ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference
- Solar Update
- + Martin Huyett, K0BXB, Wins May QST Cover Plaque Award
- New QuickStats Poll Now Available on ARRL Website
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + FORECASTERS CALLING FOR "NEAR-NORMAL" HURRICANE SEASON

Forecasters with the National Hurricane Center are calling for a
"near-normal" Atlantic hurricane season for 2012. In its initial
outlook for the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season -- which began Friday,
June 1 and runs through November 30 -- the National Weather Service's
Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is calling for a 50 percent probability
of a near-normal season, a 25 percent probability of an above-normal
season and a 25 percent probability of a below-normal season. The 2012
hurricane season began early when Tropical Storm Alberto and Tropical
Storm Beryl both developed several days before the official start of
the season, the first time since 1908 that two tropical storms
developed early; the only other year with two storms so early in the
season was 1887.

CPC forecasters say that there is a 70 percent chance of having 9-15
named storms, of which four to eight could become hurricanes, including
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one to three major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5). These ranges do not represent the total possible ranges of activity seen in past similar years. Tropical systems acquire a name upon reaching tropical storm strength with sustained winds of at least 39 miles per hour. Tropical storms become hurricanes when winds reach 74 miles per hour and become major hurricanes when winds increase to 111 miles per hour. An average season has 12 named storms, including six hurricanes with three becoming major hurricanes. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/forecasters-calling-for-near-average-hurricane-season>.

==> + CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR THE JULY 2012 ISSUE OF QST

This July issue of QST features an in-depth look at Solar Cycle 24. With its slow start, many feared Solar Cycle 24 might not be as active as previous cycles. But if you've been on the air in the last few months, you know that the higher bands are exploding with activity. Propagation guru Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, takes a look at the current solar cycle and lets readers know what they can likely expect in the coming years. So why not set aside a couple of hours, grab a snack and get ready to explore the July issue of QST.

When you think of dipole antennas, you probably envision a horizontal wire with a vertical wire hanging down from its middle. Jeff Brone, WB2JNA, couldn't put up a traditional dipole in his third-floor apartment, so played around with its configuration and came up with a new model. In his article "A Dipole Doesn't Have to Be Straight," he explains that even though some antenna is better than no antenna, just about any kind of antenna will work.

If you've ever wanted to try the new software-defined radios, but weren't too keen to give up your analog equipment, take note. Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW, has found a way to upgrade an older analog radio to an SDR at a low cost. In his article "SDR Upgrade for Analog HF Radios," learn how he created a software and hardware interface for different models of radios, produced a software package that can be used by developers to run on Windows-based platforms and used this software for the demodulation of USB, LSB and CW.

The ARRL EXPO at the 2012 Dayton Hamvention was a resounding success. With tons of exhibits within the EXPO -- including the DIY Stage, the Youth Lounge and DX activities -- the thousands of Hamvention goers were never bored. ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, explores the fun that is Dayton in her article "ARRL EXPO at the 2012 Dayton Hamvention." In the upcoming digital edition of the July issue, QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, takes an in-depth look at the dozens of new products that vendors introduced this year at Hamvention. Look for the digital edition to be online in mid-June.

More than 30 years ago, the IARU offered a no-frills 20 meter CW transceiver, dipole antenna, headphones and a Morse code key to budding hams in Asia and Africa. In 2012, one of these transceivers, sent from

ARRL Headquarters, found its way back to Newington. While its journey back to the US remains a mystery, QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, tells the transceiver's story in his article "A Transceiver Comes Home."

ARRL Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM, takes a look at the Alinco DJ-G29T dual-band handheld transceiver in this month's Product Review. He says the rig "covers the 1.25 and 33 cm bands - a unique combination. With this radio, amateurs can access the 33 cm band without having to convert commercial service transceivers." QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, checked out the WaveNode WN-2d station monitoring system, saying that it "provides useful accuracy and a lot of flexibility in terms of what you can measure and how you can display it. I found it a useful tool and a good adjunct to my station."

Of course, there are the usual columns you know and expect in the July QST: Happenings, Hints & Kinks, The Doctor Is In, Short Takes, Technical Correspondence, How's DX and more. Look for your July issue in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> + SILENT KEY: FORMER "THE WORLD ABOVE 50 MHZ" CONDUCTOR GENE ZIMMERMAN, W3ZZ (SK)

Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, of Gaithersburg, Maryland, passed away on Sunday, June 3. He was 71. Zimmerman wrote the popular QST column "The World Above 50 MHz" from 2002-2011. He also served on the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee, edited the VHF contesting column for CQ Contest magazine during its five-year lifespan and was director of the CQ VHF Contest from 2000-2002. An ARRL Life Member, Zimmerman earned VUCC on six bands: 50, 144, 222, 432, 903 and 1296 MHz, as well as DXCC, Worked All States and Worked All Continents on 6 meters. He was an early proponent of -- and participant in -- aggressive contest log checking. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/former-the-world-above-50-mhz-conductor-gene-zimmerman-w3zz-sk>.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of May -- takes a look at the new digital edition of QST, the ARRL EXPO at the 2012 Dayton Hamvention, the League's response to the FCC's request concerning impediments to Amateur Radio, draft band plans for 13 and 33 cm, the results of the ARRL Video Contest, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-46>.

==> + ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES 9 CM BAND PLAN

<http://www.arrl.org/images/view/News/BandPlan9cm.jpg> The ARRL Board of Directors has unanimously voted to approve the 9 cm band plan,

as presented by the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee. Earlier this year, the committee asked <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-comments-on-proposed-9-cm-band-plan> radio amateurs for comments on a proposed 9 cm band plan, explaining that the purpose of these band plans is to share information about how the amateur bands are being used and to suggest compatible frequency ranges for various types of applications. The committee also recognized that local conditions or needs may necessitate deviations from a band plan, and that regional frequency coordinating bodies may recommend alternatives for use in their respective regions. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-board-of-directors-approves-9-cm-band-plan>.

==> + PAPERS REQUESTED FOR ARRL/TAPR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

Amateurs are invited to submit technical papers for presentation at the 31st Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC <http://www.tapr.org/dcc>), to be held September 21-23, 2012 at the Sheraton Gateway Airport Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. These papers will also be published in the Conference Proceedings (you do not need to attend the conference to have your paper included in the Proceedings). The submission deadline is July 31. Please send papers to: Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, or you can make your submission via e-mail <maty@arrl.org>. For more information about the conference, see the DCC website <http://www.tapr.org/dcc> or call 972-671-8277.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "There's a fire starting in my heart <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ckIulg1DfQ>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers increased about 60 percent during the past week (May 31-June 6), when compared to the previous seven days (May 24-30). The increase was 48.5 points, from 81.9 to 130.4. The average daily solar flux was also up -- 18.6 points from 111.6 to 130.2. This increase in solar activity began June 1. On May 29, the daily sunspot number was 73, with four sunspot groups visible: 1486, 1488, 1490 and 1492. On May 30, the size of groups 1486, 1488 and 1492 diminished, but 1490 grew, and the sunspot number was 78. On May 31, sunspot groups 1486 and 1488 disappeared, and new groups 1493, 1494 and 1495 appeared, but the daily sunspot number was still about the same, 76. On June 1, three new groups appeared -- 1496, 1497 and 1498 -- and the daily sunspot number jumped to 151. The next day the sunspot number was 113. On June 3, sunspot group 1499 appeared and the sunspot number was 133. On June 4, three more sunspot groups arose: 1500, 1501 and 1502. Groups 1490 and 1492disappeared, and the sunspot number jumped again, this time to 155, the high for the week and the highest since May 14 when it was 156. Geomagnetic activity peaked on June 3, when the planetary A index was 19, and the high-latitude college A index was 33. The activity continues, with the planetary A index on June 4-6 at 16, 17 and 17, and the predicted planetary A index for June 7-8 at 12 and 8, followed by 5 on June 9-17. Geomagnetic activity is expected to

increase again, with a predicted planetary A index on June 18-20 at 15, 12 and 8. For June 21-25 a planetary A index of 5 is expected, followed by another peak at 15 on July 1 and again on July 15. The predicted solar flux is 140 on June 7-9, 135 on June 10-11, 130 and 125 on June 12-13, 120 on June 14-15, 115 on June 16-18, and 110 on June 19-26. The recent geomagnetic activity was caused by a coronal hole, an opening in our Sun's magnetic field, allowing solar wind to spew forth. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, June 8. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Adele's Rolling in the Deep <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolling_in_the_deep>.

==> + MARTIN HUYETT, K0BXB, WINS MAY QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the May QST Cover Plaque award is Martin Huyett, K0BXB, for his article "An AFSK Interface for Android Smartphones." Congratulations Martin! The QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll> . Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the June issue today.

==> NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- Have you ever operated on a microwave band (1.2 GHz and above)?
- How long is your longest wire antenna?
- What is your favorite way to read digital QST?
- Do you own an RF spectrum analyzer?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the September 2012 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- June 8 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- June 9 -- Portugal Day Contest; Asia-Pacific Sprint (SSB)
- June 9-10 -- DRCG Long Distance Contest (RTTY); VK Shires Contest; GACW WWSA CW DX Contest; REF DDFM 6 Meter Contest
- June 9-11 -- ARRL June VHF QSO Party

<http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party>
- June 13 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint; NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- June 13-14 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- June 15 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- June 16 - ARRL Kids Day <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>; Feld Hell Sprint; SARL Youth Day Sprint; AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- June 16-17 -- West Virginia QSO Party; All Asian DX Contest (CW); Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest
- June 17 -- WAB 50 MHz (Phone)
- June 18 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- June 21 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- June 8-9 -- ARRL West Gulf Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-gulf-division-convention-ham-com-1>, Plano, Texas
- June 9 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention>, Rogers, Arkansas; ARRL Tennessee State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/tennessee-state-convention-2>, Knoxville, Tennessee
- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electronics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-international-hamfest>, East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>, Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,

Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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137. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1817 - June 8 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-08 09:00:16 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120608090005.88A1333C93@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 256
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1817 - June 8 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1817 with a release date of June 8, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. A famed German DXer is arrested in Greece but nobody seems to know why, including Greece. Also, medical wireless network to operate adjacent to ham radio satellites on 13 centimeters; Malaysia says emergency agencies should embrace amateur radio and a primer on International lighthouse and lightship weekend. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1817 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RADIO LAW: FAMED GERMAN DX'ER DJ6SI ARRESTED IN GREECE

In what has to be one of the strangest international legal issues involving a ham radio operator, famed German DXpedition leader Baldur Drobnica, DJ6SI, has been arrested in Greece. But in a strange turn of events he was permitted to return to Germany if he promised that he would come back to Greece for trial. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom trying to sort it all out:

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Let me start by saying that it is very hard to know what has really taken place because most of the news sources are foreign language ham radio blogs and other news reports that have been electronically translated into English. Also, as we go to air there comes a purported statement in German from the person in the center of the controversy, DXer Baldur Drobnika, DJ6SI. It was posted to QRZ.com by YO4PX after being translated by DK5KF. As that is the latest information, lets start there and then take a look at the rest of the story as it seemed to unfold.

The statement credited to DJ6SI reads as follows:

"June 3rd, 2012, 20:46 (UTC 2)

Dear Michael,

I wasn't charged with espionage. As a reason of my arrest it was stated that:

1. I performed radio traffic without the approval of the Greek authorities;

2. I owned transmitting equipment which enabled the reception of other frequencies;

To the accusation was later added an other point:

I hindered the visualization of the content of my notebook.

I would like to ask you to eliminate the information that I was arrested for espionage, or to replace it with my statement.

Vy 73 Baldur DJ6SI"

Now, the back story:

According to news reports, 75 year old Baldur Drobnica, DJ6SI was on holiday on the Greek island of Kos. That's where he was reportedly taken into custody for the crime of espionage which was quickly reduced to operating amateur radio equipment. This, even though both Greece and Drobnika's home country of Germany are both signatories to the CEPT pan-European Amateur Radio licensing agreement.

Even so, Greek news reports appear to indicate DJ6SI was actually arrested under a 1929 Greek law covering illegal operation of radio telegraph equipment even though the CEPT agreement would likely superscede the older law.

According to Greek ham radio blogs the accusation of espionage was based on a complaint that he was "producing strange noises" with his computer. Those strange noises turned out to be CW and RTTY. This was corroborated by many who notice reports of his operation on Internet-based DX spotting clusters.

Quite quickly the espionage charge appeared to disappear and the reduced charge under the 1929 law implemented. And in a strange turn of events, DJ6SI was permitted to return to Germany but he was told that he must return to Greece to stand trial on June 7th. That hearing is likely taking place as this newscast goes to air. But as several Greek hams have pointed out, DJ6SI would have not been permitted to leave the country if there were any real case or even a suspicion that he was engaged in spying activities.

And one Greek ham radio blog took the matter a lot further. The Radio Amateur Association of Greece issued an angry statement defending DJ6SI. It claims that the responsibility for the entire matter should be placed on the to the shoulders of the officer that ignored laws and regulations, arrested DJ6SI and led him to court. They also place blame on the prosecutor who they say was quick to suggest his conviction based on a law passed in 1927, in the year 2012.

The hams also point out that radio amateurs have been complaining for years to the responsible Ministry that public services and institutions and particularly police have not been informed properly about ham

radio. The association says that it's the governments duty to inform all relevant authorities about amateur radio and its operations.

Obviously. This story is far from over.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

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You can read the Aegea News report in Google English at tinyurl.com/DJ6SI-Aegea-News. An article by Greek amateurs protesting Drobnika's arrest is at www.radiofono.gr/node/3251 (SV5YR, DK5KF, YO4PX, RadioInfo.gr, QRZ.com, others)

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RESCUE RADIO: MALAYSIA SAYS EMERGENCY AGENCIES SHOULD WORK WITH HAMS

Emergency Agencies in Malaysia should work with Radio Amateurs. So says that nations Information Department director-general Ibrahim Abd Rahman.

Director-general Rahman has been quoted in the Straits Times newspaper as saying that integration between the two should be encouraged as it helped the agencies to build good rapport and teamwork spirit.

Rahman said that agencies like the Fire and Rescue Department, Civil Defense, police, the Malaysian Red Crescent Society, hospitals, the Royal Malaysian Air Force and the Department of Civil Aviation should work together with amateur radio operators. He notes that hams could be the key to communicate with people in distress and, therefore, a collaboration between government agencies and amateur radio users should be intensified.

You can read the entire story of Malaysia's new emergency response proposal to include ham radio in its emergency communications system on-line at tinyurl.com/malaysian-emcomm. (Straits Times)

**

RESTRUCTURING: NEW BANDS MADE AVAILABLE IN POLAND

Some new spectrum for hams in Poland. Pawe3 Zakrzewski, SP7TEV, reports via the I-A-R-U Region One website that the Regulation of the Council of Ministers from April 3rd and published in the Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland on May 17th has made available several new bands. These include 70.1 to 70.3 MHz on a secondary basis with a power limit of 20 watts.

Also available to radio amateurs will be 2.400 to 2.450 Gigahertz without causing interference to the other services in line with the article number 5 of the ITU Radio Regulations. Lastly is 3.400 to 3.410 Gigahertz on a secondary basis, with no more than 20 watts effective radiated power.

The changes to Poland's National Table of Allocation of the Radio Frequency Spectrum will come into effect on June 1st. (IARU R-1)

**

RESTRUCTURING: BAND COVERAGE CHANGES IN DENMARK

The Danish regulator the ERST has announced the availability for of 5250 to 5450 kHz and 472 to 479 kHz and an expansion to 70 MHz to that nation's amateur radio service.

Effective this past June 1st, the pilot program at 5 MHz ceased. It was replaced by the new permanent allocation of 5250 to 5450 kHz. This spectrum can be used by that nation's A certificate holders at a power level of up to 1000 watts and B certificate holders at up to 100 watts out using all modulation types. Previously issued trial licenses are valid until their expiration date.

Additionally ERST announced an expansion of 70 MHz which will become 69.9375 to 70.0625 MHz, 70.0875 to 70.1125 MHz and 70.1625 to 70.5125 MHz. No changes were implemented to the current modes and power levels for this band.

Lastly, Denmark will also open a new amateur radio band at from 472 to 479 kHz as of January 1, 2013. (ERST)

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RESTRUCTURING: NEW LOW FREQUENCY BAND IN MONACO

The telecommunications regulator of the Principality of Monaco has allocated the band segment of 472 to 479 kHz to its amateur service. This is on a secondary status basis and limited to a maximum power of one watt effective radiated power. (GB2RS)

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RESTRUCTURING: SA AGREEMENT FOR HAM RADIO AT YOUTH DAY EVENT

The South African Radio League has signed an agreement with telecommunications regulator the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa that will allow unlicensed persons to operate an amateur radio station under the supervision of a licensed radio amateur. This without the need to register as an educational station.

The agreement comes in time for implementation for the June 16th South Africa Youth Day event. Both SARL and ICASA look at this agreement as a further incentive to set up a demonstration station, involve more young people in the youth day sprint and show the average man in the street how great amateur radio is. (SARL)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W4GR repeater serving Sumter, South Carolina.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: MED ELECTRONICS TO OPERATE ADJACENT TO HAMSATS 13 CM

Medical electronics will soon be operational adjacent to ham radio in the 13 centimeter band. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has more:

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The ARRL and AMSAT are reporting on a First Report and Order and a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released by the FCC on May 24. In it the regulatory agency decided to expand the Part 95 Personal Radio Service rules to allow medical devices to operate on a secondary basis in the spectrum from 2360 to 2400 MHz.

The new allocation came in a Report and Order on ET docket 08-59 and is specific for Medical Body Area Networks. These provide a way for health care facilities to monitor their patients without confining them to wired hookups.

The use of these frequencies will be on a secondary basis. This means that Medical Body Area Networks stations will not be allowed to cause interference to, and must accept interference from, any primary services using the spectrum. This includes amateur radio which operate on a terrestrial primary basis in the 2390 to 2395 and 2395 to 2400 MHz bands. International amateur satellite operations are allocated between 2400 to 2450 MHz, which is adjacent to the new medical devices shared spectrum.

For the amateur Radio newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

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The assignment of this new medical service to the to the shared 13 centimeter band was not much of a surprise to those who have been following the communications politics taking pace in Washington of late. (ARRL, ANS)

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RADIO PLANNING: ARRL BOD APPROVES NEW 9CM BANDPLAN

The ARRL Board of Directors has unanimously voted to approve a news 9 centimeter band plan. This, as presented to it by the League's UHF and Microwave Band Plan Committee.

In its findings, the committee recognized that local conditions or needs may necessitate deviations from a band plan. Also that regional

frequency coordinating bodies may recommend alternatives for use in their respective regions.

Several interesting notes about the new bandplan include an advisory that weak signal terrestrial legacy users should be encouraged to move to 3400.3 to 3401.0 MHz, as time and resources permit. Also that broadband segments may be used for any combination of high-speed data, amateur television and other high-bandwidth activities. Division into channels and or separation of uses within these segments may be done regionally, based on need and usage.

The new plan also notes that per I-T-U Radio Regulation 5.149 that in some regions these band segments are also used for Radio Astronomy. As such, amateur radio use of these frequencies should be first coordinated with the National Science Foundation.

Earlier this year, the committee asked radio amateurs for comments on a proposed 9 cm band plan. At that time it explained that the purpose of these band plans is to share information about how the amateur spectrum is being used and to suggest compatible frequency ranges for various types of application. (ARRL)

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RADIO LAW: FCC DENIES CALL IDENTIFICATION CHANGE REQUEST

The FCC has again denied a rule making petition from Glen Zook, K9STH, of Richardson, Texas. One that requested that Section 97.119(a) of the Commission's Rules be amended to include an exception to the station identification rule.

Accorsding to the FCC, Section 97.119(a) provides that an amateur station must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication.

In his petition Zook asserted that the requirement that a station transmit its assigned call sign at the end of each communication is routinely violated by amateur operators.

The FCC says that Zook proposed to address this by adding to Section 97.119(a) which was an exception formerly contained in the Commission's regulations pertaining to the Amateur Radio Service. Specifically, K9STH requested that the rule be amended to provide that if an amateur station transmits its call sign during its first transmission, the call sign need not be transmitted at the end of the communications if the total communication is less than three minutes. Zook referred to this as the "3-minute rule."

In denying Zook's request the FCC noted that his proposal to reinstate the "3-minute rule" was dismissed twice in the last five years. It says that his latest petition sets forth no new facts or changed circumstances warranting further consideration of the proposal. As

such, the FCC concludes that the current petition is repetitive and as such it is being dismissed. (FCC)

**

FCC NEWS: SEAN LEV NAMED NEW FCC GENERAL COUNSEL

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski has announced that Sean Lev, currently Deputy General Counsel and Special Advisor to the Chairman, will become FCC General Counsel. This after Austin Schlick announced his decision to step down as the agency's General Counsel, effective mid-June.

According to his bio, Lev came to the FCC from the Department of Energy, where he served as the Acting General Counsel and Deputy General Counsel for Environment and Nuclear Programs. Before joining the D-O-E in June 2009, Lev was a partner at Kellogg, Huber, Hansen, Todd, Evans & Figel, where his practice focused on telecommunications, administrative law, and appellate and general litigation. (FCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAM RADIO AT THE 2012 MENSA ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 2012 Mensa Annual Gathering and National Convention will be held July 4th through the 8th in Reno, Nevada. During the gathering, the on-line Mensa amateur radio special interest group will be sponsoring the Special Events Station N-7-M. According to Bil Munsil, K1ATV, of Mesa, Arizona, there will be field day-type operation from the parking structure on top of the Silver Legacy resort. There also may be a 2 meter station and possibly an amateur fast scan ATV station in the lobby of the Reno Ballroom. More about the Mensa convention is on-line at www.ag.us.mensa.org. (K1ATV)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: FOX CITIES ARC TO COMMEMORATE AIRVENTURE 2012

Jon Oldenburg. AB9AH, tells Newsline that the Fox Cities Amateur Radio club will once again be hosting a special event amateur radio station at the EAA Airvenute 2012. This from July 25th to the 29th.

Station W9ZL will operate each day from 1500 to 0000 UTC from the Airventure venue in Oshkosh Wisconsin. Stations will be active on 7.250 and 14.250 MHz SSB. Also on 52.550 MHz FM.

For a commemorative please QSL with a large self addressed stamped envelope to FCARC AirVenture 2011, PO Box 2346, Appleton Wisconsin, 54912.

According to AB9AH this will be the 19th year that the Fox Cities club will be hosting this commemorative Airventure station event. (AB9AH)

**

HAMVENTION 2012: OFFICIAL FIGURE SAYS OVER 24000 ATTENDED THIS YEAR

The numbers are out and they show conclusively that attendance at the Dayton Hamvention is on the rise. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, has more:

--

The official attendance of Hamvention 2012 reached 24,483. This good news was announced by 2012 Hamvention General Chairman Mike Kalter, W8CI, at the Dayton Amateur Radio Association meeting Friday night, June 1st.

According to Kalter, this was an increase over last year. He attributed it in part to the excellent weather during Hamvention weekend.

W8CI also noted that many vendors reported excellent sales during the three days of Hamvention. Also that many restaurants, hotels and motels also reported increased sales. This contributing to an estimated $10 million economic impact for the region.

For the first time this year, a $3 Dayton Attractions Tour Shuttle ran from Hara's main entrance Friday and Saturday. Stops included the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, Wright Dunbar Interpretive Center, the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park and Carillon Park.

In his address to the club, Kalter said that Hamvention would not be possible without the 500 plus volunteers who manage every aspect of the event. For those not aware, the Dayton Hamvention is the largest amateur radio gathering in the world and one of the largest events of its type operated entirely by volunteers.

Planning is already beginning for the 62nd Hamvention which will be held at Hara Arena May 17, 18 and 19, 2013. We plan to be there and hope that you will be too.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Wilbanks AE5DW, in southern Mississippi.

--

And one side note. Not to be forgotten was a high altitude balloon launch that was again part of Hamvention activities. The two-hour flight reached an altitude over 87,000 feet and landed in a pasture approximately eight miles southwest of the Hara Arena launch point. Ironically, the pasture was owned by a ham, Donald Fourman, AB8OS. (DARA)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being

relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: VHF/UHF EXPERT EUGENE ZIMMERMANN, W3ZZ - SK

We seem to say it more and more of late, but the changing of the guard in amateur radio continues with word of the passing of VHF and UHF expert Eugene Zimmerman, W3ZZ.

Zimmermann, of Gaithersburg, Maryland, passed away on Sunday, June 3rd, was likely best known in ham radio circles as the author of the popular QST column "The World Above 50 MHz" that he wrote from 2002 to 2011. He also served on the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee, edited the VHF contesting column for CQ Contest magazine during its five-year lifespan and was director of the CQ VHF Contest from 2000 through 2002.

First licensed in 1956, Zimmerman earned the coveted VUCC award on 50, 144, 222, 432, 903 and 1296 MHz, as well as DXCC, Worked All States and Worked All Continents on 6 meters. He also logged several national Top-10 finishes in the ARRL November Sweepstakes as well as a second-place North American finish in the CQ World Wide CW Contest operating from VP2MDD. W3ZZ also placed in the Top 10 several times in the ARRL VHF QSO Parties and in the ARRL VHF Sweepstakes.

Zimmerman was an ARRL Life member. He earned a PhD in Microbiology from the University of Maryland in 1968. He began his professional career at the National Institutes of Health where he spent a year as a technician studying respiratory viruses. This experience sparked an interest in virology and conquering the common cold. After this, he conducted early research at National Institutes of Health, studying the relationship between retroviruses and cancer, the use of the simian model for studying leukemia and the use of interferon as an immune system modulator.

In 1976, he joined the National Institutes of Health Grants Associate Program, which groomed promising scientists for careers in managing N-I-H research programs. Zimmerman was then recruited to be the Scientific Review Administrator of the Allergy and Immunology Study Section of the Immunological Sciences Integrated Review Group, where he evaluated research proposals to provide funds for research in immunology.

Eugene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, was a member of the Delmarva VHF and Microwave Society, the Grid Pirates Contest Group, a Past President of the Potomac Valley Radio Club and an honorary member of the Connecticut Wireless Association.

As we go to air memorial services had not yet been announced. At the time of his passing Gene Zimmermann, W3ZZ, was age 71. (ARRL)

**

WORLDBEAT: 2012 OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY TRACKED ON APRS

The 2012 Olympic Torch Relay route is being tracked on the APRS.fi web site. To see it go to http://aprs.fi/ and enter Torch2012 in the Track Callsign field. Also information on the Worked All Britain Follow the Torch Award is on-line at www.worked-all-britain.co.uk. (GB2RS)

**

WORLDBEAT: SPECIAL CENTENIARY CALL FOR WIA

2012 is the Centenary of the Wireless Institute of Australia being established in the State of Queensland. The special Centenary callsign, VK-100-WIQ, was activated on June 1st and will be active through July 31st by way of the W-I-A affiliated radio clubs in Queensland. There is also a Centenary QSL card and a Centenary award available. Details can be found at www.wia.org.au. (WIA)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: LISTEN TO HORYU-2 ON THE WWW

YO8SSQ and YO8TLC have made available a web based receiver to enable listeners to hear the new HORYU-2 amateur radio satellite. This when the new bird is within range of Romania.

The WebSDR receiver is located at the Astronomical Observatory Department of the University in Suceava. That in grid locator KN 37 at a height of 350 meters above sea level.

The hardware consists of two SDR receivers which are fed into 48 kHz sound cards on an AMD Sempron 2600+ computer running Vector Linux. The web page displays a track showing the current position of HORYU-2. It also provides coverage of the 3.65 to 3.710 MHz portion of the 80 band.

You can listen to the HORYU-2 and 80 meter WebSDR receivers at tinyurl.com/sdr-sat-receiver

(HORYU-2 TEAM)

**

DX

In DX Word from the ARRL that 2012 XX9E operation from Macao has been approved for DXCC credit. If you worked that operation you can submit it for DXCC. On the air, ON8ZZ, ON3JA and ON3NT will be active as MU stroke OT9Z from Guernsey between July 16th to the 20th. During their stay on Guernsey, they plan to activate Herm Island on the 17th, Sark Island on the 18th and Alderny Island on the 19th. The group will then head south to be active from Chausey Island between July 27th and the 29th using the call F/OT9Z from . QSL all operations via OT9Z.

OE4JHW reports that he will do a suitcase DXpedition to Kuredu Island between September 2nd and the 4th. More details including the QSL route will be forthcoming in the near future.

AC8G who was planning a 6 night stay in Grenada for the CQ WW SSB Contest, October 27th and 28th, has announced that the airline that was to transport him has cancelled his flight. Other dates offered were not acceptable, so he has terminated his plans the operation.

DL9WVM, will once again be active portable A6 from Dubai through June 30th. . His activity will be on 80 through 10 meters. QSL via Logbook of the World or via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau.

DL2RMC is also on the air slash A6 from Abu Dhabi which started around May 29th. He will be there for 3 weeks depending on his job in United Arab Emerites. QSL as directed on the air.

Lastly N0TG has announced a 2013 operation to Sint Maarten between March 15th to the 23rd. He states that he has the facility arranged, as well as tickets, and all other aspects required so you can look for N0TG, AA4VK and N1SNB to sign slant PJ during that operation. Activity will probably be on all bands and modes. QSL's all three callsigns will go via N0TG.

(Above from various DX news sources)

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THAT FINAL ITEM: A PRIMER ON ILLW

And finally a bit of ham radio history on International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend. From down-under here's Felix Scerri, VK4FUQ:

--

The 15th annual International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend in August has inspired many to register early with 32 countries and nearly 250 registered already.

Although this is just over half of the countries normally attracted by the event it is slightly ahead of expectations with ten weeks to go.

The weekend increases the public awareness of lighthouses and lightships and their need for them to be preserved, promotes amateur radio and fosters international goodwill.

The event was started mainly by late Mike Dalrymple GM4SUC and the Ayr Amateur Radio Group in 1995 as the Northern Lighthouse Activity Weekend with stations at Scottish lighthouses. It quickly went international.

The third weekend in August coincides with the worldwide lighthouse open day organized by the Association of Lighthouse Keepers that sees public access to many of the featured lighthouses.

During the weekend a group or individual sets up an amateur station at or adjacent to a lighthouse, lightship or marine beacon that is listed.

To register, complete a short online form, read the event rules and have lots of fun. You will see complete statistics on past events, reports from previous years and ILLW are on Facebook too.

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This year's International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend is slated for August 18th and 19th and runs 48 hours. If you have access to a lighthouse or lightship you want to activate, you can register for the event on-line at www.illw.org. (WIA News)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, TWIT.TV, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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138. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-15 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1339740002@panix.com>
Source record: 257
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
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Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

139. The ARRL Letter for June 14, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-15 06:15:26 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120615025651.919BD27D30E@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 258
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

June 14, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + ARRL Field Day: Notify Your Neighbors about ARRL Field Day, June
23-24
- + ARRL Field Day: W1AW Announces 2012 Field Day Bulletin Schedule
- + Digital Edition of July QST Available June 15
- + FCC News: Mignon Clyburn Renominated for New Term as FCC
Commissioner
- + Getting Licensed: New Amateur Extra Class Question Pool Effective
July 1
- + Call for Nominations for ARRL Directors and Vice Directors for
Central, Hudson, New England, Northwestern and Roanoke Divisions
- + ARDF Update: Team USA Forming after USA ARDF Championships
- Papers Requested for ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference
- Solar Update
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL FIELD DAY: NOTIFY YOUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT ARRL FIELD DAY, JUNE
23-24

It's not too late to get information about your ARRL Field Day
<http://www.arrl.org/fieldday> activities out to the public. ARRL Field
Day -- the largest on-the-air operating event -- is the one of the best
opportunities of the year for showing our Amateur Radio capabilities to
the public. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP,
notes that the ARRL has made many media materials available for local
use: "Our visibility to the public is important in antenna, band
preservation and texting issues, so we encourage you to use this
opportunity to showcase what Amateur Radio can do," he said. Download
an audio PSA <http://p1k.arrl.org/pub/pr/Field%20Day/> that can air on
local radio stations. Send out a press release or invite your local
```

officials
<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2012/2012-FD-PR-Info-V2.pdf>
to your Field Day site. Send high-definition video files
<http://p1k.arrl.org/pub/pr/> suitable for airing to your local
television stations. Get more information on ARRL Field Day, including
the 2012 ARRL Field Day logo and operating tips here
<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>. Looking for a Field Day station near
you? Find one here <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>.

==> + ARRL FIELD DAY: W1AW ANNOUNCES 2012 FIELD DAY BULLETIN SCHEDULE

Stations active during ARRL Field Day -- June 23-24 -- are eligible
to receive 100 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin
transmitted by W1AW (or K6KPH on the West Coast). You must include an
accurate copy of the message in your Field Day submission. The Field
Day bulletin must be copied via Amateur Radio; it will not be included
in Internet bulletins sent out from Headquarters and will not be posted
to Internet BBS sites.

W1AW will operate on the regularly published frequencies. The special
PSK31 bulletin will be transmitted on the regular W1AW digital
frequencies:

- CW frequencies: 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675,
28.0675 and 147.555 MHz.
- Digital frequencies (includes PSK31 and MFSK16) using 45.45-baud
Baudot: 3597.5, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095 and 147.555 MHz.
- Phone frequencies: 1.855, 3.990, 7.290, 14.290, 18.160, 21.390,
28.590 and 147.555 MHz.

The Maritime Radio Historical Society's K6KPH will transmit the 2012
W1AW Field Day message for the benefit of West Coast stations on
3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975 and 21.0675 MHz, CW only. The
frequencies for K6KPH Digital (RTTY, BPSK31 MFSK16 and FEC AMTOR) will
be 7.095 and 14.095 MHz. Click here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/w1aw-announces-2012-field-day-bulletin-schedule>
for the complete schedule.

==> + DIGITAL EDITION OF JULY QST AVAILABLE JUNE 15

The digital version of the July QST will be available to ARRL members
on Friday, June 15. The digital version includes many features not
available in the print version, such as:

- An expanded look at the Dayton Hamvention® (including a look at
the many new products that were introduced).
- Product Review videos on the Alinco DJ-G29T dual-band handheld
transceiver and the WaveNode WN-2d station monitoring system.
- Audio from "A Transceiver Comes Home," by QST Editor Steve Ford,
WB8IMY.
- Links to the winning videos from the 2012 QST Video Contest.

Watch your e-mail inbox for a link to the digital edition of the July issue of QST.

==> + FCC NEWS: MIGNON CLYBURN RENOMINATED FOR NEW TERM AS FCC COMMISSIONER

On June 6, President Barack Obama announced that he will nominate Mignon Clyburn for a new five-year term as one of five FCC Commissioners. Clyburn, a Democrat, came to the Commission in August 2009, filling the unexpired term of Republican Deborah Taylor Tate, whose tenure as a Commissioner came to a close in January 2009. Clyburn's current term expires June 30, 2012. "In renominating Commissioner Clyburn, President Obama has made an outstanding choice for the Commission and for the American people," said FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski. "As I know from working with her for the past several years, Commissioner Clyburn is a strong leader, focused on helping all Americans harness the benefits of broadband. I congratulate her." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/president-obama-announces-nomination-of-mignon-clyburn-for-new-term-as-fcc-commissioner>.

==> + GETTING LICENSED: NEW AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL EFFECTIVE JULY 1

The new Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=358> -- released by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC <http://www.ncvec.org/>) in January 2012 -- becomes effective on Sunday, July 1. The current Amateur Extra class pool expires on June 30, 2012 and cannot be used after that date. This new question pool -- including graphics and diagrams -- will remain valid until June 30, 2016. The new Amateur Extra pool contains 702 questions, from which 50 are selected for an Element 4 examination. As of June 13, three questions -- E1D09, E2A14 and E6E10 -- have been removed <http://www.arrl.org/withdrawn-questions> from the new pool. The current Technician class question pool <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=349> that became effective July 1, 2010 is valid through June 30, 2014. The current General class pool <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=350> that became effective July 1, 2011 is valid until June 30, 2015.

==> + CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ARRL DIRECTORS AND VICE DIRECTORS FOR CENTRAL, HUDSON, NEW ENGLAND, NORTHWESTERN AND ROANOKE DIVISIONS

The ARRL is governed by its Board of Directors. A voting Director is chosen by ballot by the full (licensed) members in each of the 15 ARRL divisions. Vice Directors -- who serve in the absence of the Director from a Board meeting and succeed to the position of Director should a vacancy occur -- are chosen at the same time. Elections are held in five divisions per year. It only takes 10 full members in a division to nominate a candidate for either office.

This fall, ARRL members in the Central, Hudson, New England, Northwestern and Roanoke Divisions will have the opportunity to choose a Director and a Vice Director for a three year term that starts January 1, 2013. Beginning in 2012, ARRL members in Divisions where there are contested elections will be able to vote electronically. Members with valid e-mail addresses in their membership profiles will be sent instructions on how to vote by e-mail; members without e-mail addresses, or whose e-mails bounce, or who request a paper ballot, will be sent a ballot by postal mail as in the past. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/call-for-nominations-for-arrl-directors-and-vice-directors-for-central-hudson-new-england-northweste>.

==> + ARDF UPDATE: TEAM USA FORMING AFTER USA ARDF CHAMPIONSHIPS

By ARRL ARDF Coordinator Joe Moell, K0OV

From DXing to microwaves, nearly every facet of our hobby has its competitions. But there are no more ardent contesters than the ones who take to the fields and forests to see who can locate the greatest number of radio transmitters in the shortest time. They call themselves foxhunters, foxtailers, radio-orienteers and ARDFers. Each year, they come together from around the country to see who is best. Every two years, the best from each country gather to see who is tops in the world. The 12th USA ARDF (Amateur Radio Direction Finding) Championships took place May 30-June 3 near Mt Laguna, California. In September, the 15th ARDF World Championships will get under way at the resort city of Kopaonik, in central Serbia. Standard rules and procedures of the International Amateur Radio Union govern these competitions. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/ardf-update-team-usa-forming-after-usa-ardf-championships>.

==> PAPERS REQUESTED FOR ARRL/TAPR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

Amateurs are invited to submit technical papers for presentation at the 31st Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC <http://www.tapr.org/dcc>), to be held September 21-23, 2012 at the Sheraton Gateway Airport Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. These papers will also be published in the Conference Proceedings (you do not need to attend the conference to have your paper included in the Proceedings). The submission deadline is July 31. Please send papers to: Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, or you can make your submission via e-mail <maty@arrl.org>. For more information about the conference, see the DCC website <http://www.tapr.org/dcc> or call 972-671-8277.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "All for the love of sunshine <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7ZLEQ3MCZA>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity was lower this week, although for the past few days, sunspot numbers and solar flux were rising. The average daily sunspot numbers declined more than 14.3 points to 116.1, while the average

daily solar flux was off by 14.5 points to 115.9. There were five new sunspot groups this week: two each on June 9-10, and one more on June 13. The latest prediction has solar flux at 145 on June 14-16, 140 on June 17-18, 135 on June 19-20, 120 on June 21, 110 on June 22-26, 105 on June 27-28, followed by a climb back to 120 on July 1-12. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on June 14-15, 8 on June 16-17, 10 on June 18-19, 8 on June 20-21, and 5 on June 22-25. The next peak in geomagnetic activity is predicted for July 1-3, with planetary A index at 15, 12 and 10. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, June 15. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Hank Williams Jr's All for the Love of Sunshine <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_for_the_Love_of_Sunshine>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- June 15 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- June 16 - ARRL Kids Day <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>; Feld Hell Sprint; SARL Youth Day Sprint; AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- June 16-17 -- West Virginia QSO Party; All Asian DX Contest (CW); Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest
- June 17 -- WAB 50 MHz (Phone)
- June 18 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- June 21 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next week:

- June 23-24 -- ARRL Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/fieldday>; His Majesty King of Spain Contest (SSB); Marconi Memorial HF Contest; Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest
- June 27 -- SKCC Sprint
- June 27-28 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electronics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-international-hamfest>,

East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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140. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1818 - June 15 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-15 12:20:10 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120615090003.AB6D433C93@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 259
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1818 - June 15 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1818 with a release date of June 15, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Hams in Colorado and New Mexico go on high alert as wildfires rage in both states; new problems for a South African ham radio satellite; Brunei says that it is cracking down unlicensed use of ham radio gear; a verdict in the case of Greece vs. DJ6SI and ARRL Field Day 2012 is right around the corner. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1818 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RESCUE RADIO: COLORADO AND NM HAMS STAND BY AS FLAMES RAGE

Ham radio operators in Colorado and New Mexico are on high alert as wildfires whip across areas of both states. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with what we have so far:

--

Amateur radio emergency operators in Colorado and New Mexico are on standby alert and a number are already involved in coordinated relief efforts as wildfires rage across mainly wilderness areas of both states.

In Colorado, the best information came on Tuesday night the 12th from Amanda Alden K1DDN. Alden and her husband Jeff, K0JSC, live in Carson City, Colorado. She reported on the Ham Nation Internet TV show that hams further North in the Ft. Collins area are very much involved in providing various types of communications, with APRS markers for the fire areas being one of the major resources.

Alden said that she has been in contact with Eugene Bentz, KI6MPA. He is the EOC operator and resource net control. He told Alden that about 25 assistants are providing communications to the Forrest Service, the Colorado State Patrol, the Larimer County Sheriff, the Red Cross as well as county officials. Also, APRS information regarding fire locations is being posted to both AGW Tracker and APRS.fi. The makers show fire locations as well as EOC's, Incident Command Post and shelter markers. At the time of K1DDN's report that fire was about 15 miles west of the city of Ft. Collins.

Moving south into New Mexico, Jay Miller, W5WHN, in Albuquerque has been in monitoring the work of the hams involved in the Little Bear Fire that erupted on Saturday the 9th. He tells Newsline that Joe Kenmore, K5FBK was in the Lincoln County EOC when this blaze was first discovered. As this newscast is prepared, Gerald Minor, N5RKE, is at the Shelter in Ruidoso and Ed Meyer, WK7ED, is active at the shelter in Capitan.

Currently, the W5BI system at Rio Rancho has been linked receive only at this time the 449.3 to 146.98 on Buck Mountain. This allows Albuquerque and Santa Fe to talk directly to the affected area, if needed. Also the 146.66 MHz NM5ML repeater at Capitan has performed well linking back to all parts of the State.

As we go to air, there has not yet been any mass call-out of hams in either state, and hams involved in emergency communications groups were told on the 13th not to self deploy. But the word is to have their go kits ready and to be ready to provide assistance as is needed.

More information as we get it.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles. Jim.

--

According to fire officials it will be some time before these fires are contained and controlled. We will have updates in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (ARNewsline(tm), TWIT.TV, W5WHN)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: BATTERIES FAIL ON SUMBABDILLASAT

More problems for the South Africa built SumbabdilaSat ham radio satellite. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, tells us the latest on the seemingly problem prone bird:

--

South Africa Amsat reports that the satellites batteries on SumbandilaSat have failed which means that the satellite is only active when the solar panels are illuminated.

The report from SA-Amsat says that the satellite recovery team at SunSpace is still incrementally reading back the program code from the nine power modules. This, in an effort to determine the extent of the problem. But with SumbandilaSat going through eclipses, the satellite is not available for as long each day as the team would like.

According to Johann Lochner, ZR6CBC, because of the shorter illumination of the solar panels in the Southern hemisphere winter and poor orientation of the satellite with respect to the sun, progress is much slower than originally anticipated. Lochner said that there where three passes to work with in January but this month they currently have

one.

That said, ZR6CBC says that SumbandilaSat is responding when it is in full sunlight. As such, the recovery team is confident that some operations will be restored. He says that it may even be possible to do some imaging and have the amateur radio transponder back in operation. However, no one will speculate as to when.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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Updates on the condition of SumbandillaSat can be found on-line at www.amsatsa.org.za (SA AMSAT)

**

ENFORCEMENT: BRUNEI GOING AFTER UNLICENSED MOBILE OPERATORS

The Brunei government says that it is cracking down on anyone found operating amateur radio gear without government authorization. Members of that nation's citizenry who are convicted of illegal use of amateur radio equipment without a license from the Authority for Info-communications Technology Industry of Brunei Darussalam or AITI will face a maximum fine of 10,000 Brunei dollars, up to three years imprisonment, or both.

This new anti pirate operating campaign appears aimed primarily at those unlicensed individuals who use mobile gear on the VHF and UHF amateur bands. It was announced by the AITI during a briefing on the first of several joint operations with the Berakas Police to crack down on illegal use of radio equipment. The operations involved a dedicated corps of sixteen police personnel and seven AITI officials. (Borneo Bulletin)

**

RADIO LAW: DJ6SI VS. GREECE - THE COURT DECISION

A court decision in the case of DXer Baldur Drobnica, DJ6SI, who stood trial last week in Greece on three charges involving his operation of an amateur radio station on the vacation island of Kos. The three crimes he was eventually charged with were conducting radio traffic without permission from the Greek Government. Operating a transceiver that covered more spectrum than just the ham radio bands permitted by Greece and his refusal to surrender his equipment to the officer who investigated the incident.

According to a note posted to the Internet by his attorney, Drobnica was acquitted on counts 1 and 2 after the court ruled that he was a properly licensed radio amateur. However he was convicted on the third count of refusing to surrender his equipment to the arresting officer.

No word of what penalties if any were imposed on the single count conviction. However his lawyer is reported to already have filed an appeal on count three and the court is expected to hold a separate trial on this issue at a later date.

Please keep in mind that this report is based on multiple language translations beginning in Greek with some of it electronic. As you all know, the latter have been known to leave you wondering if the translation is completely accurate. One report in translated English is on-line at tinyurl.com/dj6si-verdict. (SV5BYR)

**

WORLDBEAT: RADIOSPORT FEDERATION OF AZBERAIJAN APPLIES FOR IARU MEMBERSHIP

The Federation of Radiosport of Azerbaijan has applied for International Amateur Radio Union membership. The IARU Region 1 website reports that the application has found to be in order and a proposal that organization be elected as an IARU member has been put out to vote. Member Societies have been requested to return their vote forms not later than November 1st. The Federation of Radiosport of Azerbaijan was founded back in December of 2001. (IARU Region 1)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WB6VVV repeater serving Lancaster, California.

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: POWER OUTAGE AFFECTS HAM-COM PLANO TEXAS

If you are old enough, you may remember 1970's Bobby Russel southern the folk song titled The Night the Lights Went Out in Georgia. Well this time it wasn't a song and it took place in Texas when the lights and the air conditioning went out at the Plano Center on Saturday, June 9th. This during the annual Ham Com gathering. Chip Margelli, K7JA, of CQ Magazine was there and gave a brief synopsis of what occurred:

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K7JA: "Well, early in the afternoon the lights in the Plano center went out. They had gone out the previous day and stayed off for about 30 seconds so it was no big deal. But on Saturday they stayed off for quite a while and folks that got onto the Internet to the Plano power company were told it would be 4 hours that the power would be out. S a lot of exhibitors along about 2 o'clock and 2:30 began packing up because it appears as if power was not going to come back on. It came back at about 3:30 or 4 - somewhere in there -but by then some of the

crowd had gone. So it really was quite an impact. The lights were bad enough but the lack of air conditioning really impacted on everyones willingness to stay inside."

--

Unlike most ham radio shows that are full weekend events, Ham-Com is held Friday and Saturday that closes both days at 6 p.m. local time. Even so, K7JA says that it was "interesting" to have the lights come back on and discover that many of the other exhibitors had already packed up and left. Not to mention the attendees:

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K7JA: "At the CQ booth we were quite fortunate because we were by an exit, so there was a little bit of light there. We were doing `candle light specials' to entice people to stop by our booth.

"But if was definitely a downer for everybody in the exhibit area. The dealers and especially the manufacturers who'se radios are so dependant on their displays. A lot of the transceiver manufacturers were just stopped dead in the water because they couldn't get their displays to show off all of the neat things that the radios could do."

--

At airtime the reason for the power failure has not been announced. According to Chris Boone, WB5ITT, the outage appeared to affect only the convention facility. In a e-mail to Newsline Boone said that all the stores around the convention center were ok and the street lights still worked as well. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

RADIO POLITICS: FCC ANNOUNCES TWO SPECTRUM-SHARING AGREEMENTS WITH MEXICO

A new spectrum sharing agreement between the United States and Mexico for the 800 Mhz and 1 point 9 Gigahertz bands has been negotiated by the FCC.

According to a June 11th press release by the FCC, the new 800 MHz Protocol allots band segments between the United States and Mexico, specifies the technical parameters for operation on these band segments within 68 miles of the common border. It also creates a bi-national Task Force to support the transition of incumbent operators along the border to the new allotment plan.

The new protocol for 800 MHz replaces a previous agreement and paves the way for completion of 800 MHz re-allocation or re-banding by U.S. public safety and commercial licensees operating along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Higher up in frequency, a new protocol for the 1 point 9 Gigahertz band allows the Sprint Nextel Corporation to deploy C-D-M-A service along the border with Mexico. Sprint obtained access to the 1 point 9 Gigahertz band in 2004. This, as compensation for vacating its spectrum holding in the lower segment of the 800 MHz band in accordance with the rebanding project.

The FCC ordered re-banding will alleviate interference to public safety licensees in the band caused by commercial cellular licensees. The relevant documents are available on the International Bureau web site at tinyurl.com/border-agreement. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC RULES THAT STATE COURT CANNOT ORDER RADIO STATION LICENSE TRANSFER

The FCC has ruled that a license issued by that agency cannot be used by a local court to satisfy a debt.

In its finding the commission ruled that a court in Puerto Rico exceeded its authority in ordering a broadcaster to turn over the license of WEGA-AM to help satisfy a financial judgment.

The FCC had been asked to approve the involuntary assignment of the WEGA-AM license to Carmelo Santiago Roman, owner of VI/MAN Broadcasting System Corporation, This, after the local court ordered station owner A Radio Co. to turn over cash, the license and other property to a court-appointed holder pending a final court order in their financial dispute. Both sides then presented arguments to the FCC explaining their legal views about the involuntary license transfer.

Now in issuing a decision, Peter Doyle, who is Chief of the FCC's Media Bureau's Audio Division, stated that his agency retains exclusive authority to license broadcast stations. He noted that when a state court's decision is contrary to commission policy, the commission is neither bound by the state court order nor need take action to allow the order to be carried out.

Doyle continued that a license, unlike a station's physical assets, is not subject to a mortgage, security interest, attachment or similar property right. What's more, licenses are subject to the FCC's consent before any transfer. As such the decision of the court in Puerto Rico to "attach" the license of WEGA-AM is invalid from the outset. (FCC, RW)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: RFINDER NOW FULLY SUPPORTS D-STAR LISTINGS

The world wide on-line repeater directory known as RFinder now supports D-Star. This, as a direct result of its editorial staff attending the D-Star forum at the recent Dayton.

According to a press release by the publication, it became apparent that there was a lack of D-Star repeater locating options to the vastly growing population of D-Star user base. As a result, as of May 24th RFinder fully supports D-Star in the directory.

RFinder is available in the Apple App Store for iPhone and Android devices. The web version can be found at www.rfinder.net (RFINDER)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: INTERNATIONAL EME CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN CAMBRIDGE ENGLAND

The 15th International Earth-Moon-Earth or EME conference will be held at Churchill College, Cambridge, between 15 and 19 August. This is the first time that this conference will be held in the United Kingdom and its planners say that this will provide an opportunity to learn about this most technically challenging aspect of the hobby.

The event will be hosted by the UK Microwave Group. In addition to EME-specific lectures there will be presentations on radio astronomy and deep space communications, as both these subjects have much in common with EME.

Two Nobel Physics Laureates from the world of radio astronomy will be present at the conference. Joe Taylor, K1JT, is a keen EME enthusiast and will be presenting a paper on the MAP65 digital mode. His fellow-Laureate Professor Antony Hewish is the speaker at the conference gala dinner on Saturday August 18th.

All those wishing to attend must pre-register for this conference before August 1st. Day passes and a range of accommodation packages from one to four nights are available. See www.eme2012.com for full details. (Amsat-UK)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: DARA ANNOUNCES 2012 - 2013 LEADERSHIP

Some names in the news. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association, sends word from Ron Moorefield, W8ILC, that Ron DuBon, N6JRL, has been re-elected as the organizations President. This at the organizations meeting on Friday, June 1st.

Also retaining their seats on the DARA Board are Secretary Nancy Krodel, KC8RMT; Treasurer Jon Thuermer, KB8SRQ; Senior Trustee Jerry Miller WD8QAI and Junior Trustee Scott Meyers, AC8DE.

Others elected to the DARA board for 2013 are Vice Pesident Reuben Meeks, W8GUC, Meeks had previously served as Dayton Amateur Radio Association President back in 2001 and 2002. (W8ILC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: TWO AWARDS CREATED TO HONOR THE LATE EUGENE ZIMMERMANN, W3ZZ

To honor long-time VHF contester Eugene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, who became a Silent Key on June 3, two new awards have been introduced for the ARRL June VHF Contest in his memory.

First, the ARRL Contest Branch has renamed the plaque for the Overall Winner for the Limited Multi-Operator the Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ Memorial Plaque. Zimmermann had been a very active as part of the K8GP team in this category. At the same time the League issued a special thank you to Jeff Klein, K1TEO, who graciously relinquished his long-time sponsorship of this plaque to allow this to happen.

In addition, a new award has been created, thanks to Tim Duffy K3LR and Dave Zeph, W9ZRX. The W3ZZ Rookie Award will be awarded to the top Single-Op, Low Power score on a minimum of two bands by a "rookie" submitting a log in the contest for the first time. This award is open to any operator that has never submitted a log to the June VHF Contest.

Both of these awards were made available beginning with last weekend's ARRL June VHF Contest. (KX9X, ARRL, VHF Reflector)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ARRL FIELD DAY - JUNE 23 AND 24

For those few who are not yet aware, the annual ARRL Field Day takes place each year on the 4th weekend of June. This year the Field Day starts at 1800 UTC on Saturday, June 23rd and runs through 2100 UTC on Sunday June 24th. And while its billed as an emergency preparedness exercise, its also a great chance for you to tell the world about your hobby and the service it provides to the community. Allen Pitts, W1AGP, is the Manager of Media and Public Relations for the ARRL:

--

W1AGP: "Its also a chance for us to show off to various legislators and government agencies to remind them that we are here; that we need the spectrum. We provide emergency services and most of all, we have fun doing it."

--

Again, these years ARRL Field Day takes place from 1800 UTC on Saturday, June 23rd and runs through 2100 UTC on Sunday June 24th. We hope to hear you on the air. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

RADIOSPORTS: AUSTRALIA VHF-UHF FIELD DAY JUNE 23-24

Meantime, down-under Australia's Winter VHF-UHF Field Day will be held over the same weekend of June 23 and 24. The event runs for 24 hours, but there are also 8 hour sections for operators who may not be able to camp overnight. There are also separate categories for single and multiple operator stations. And if you don't like the cold weather of the Southern hemisphere winter, there is also a separate home station category. More details are on the contest page at wia.org.au (VK3KM)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: PHONESATS SHOWN AT MAY MAKER FAIRE

Turning to ham radio in space related news, some new amateur radio satellites based on cellphones were recently shown to the public at the 2012 Bay Area Maker Faire in San Mateo, California. Amateur Radio Newsline's Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, reports:

--

Among the displays was one for the PhoneSat amateur radio satellites. These are a pair of ham radio satellites both of which run the Android operating system and will be enclosed in a standard 1U CubeSat structure.

PhoneSat 1.0 cost about $3500 and is built around the Nexus One smartphone. It will operate on battery power only with a mission lifetime of approx 1 week. Its big brother called PhoneSat 2.0 used a Nexus S smartphone and has solar panels on each face for a mission lifetime that should last at least two weeks when it will likely de-orbit.

The IARU has coordinated a frequency of 437.425 MHz for the AX.25 AFSK downlink.

The first launch is scheduled for the third quarter of 2012 on the Antares-110 launch vehicle. It will carry two PhoneSat 1.0 satellites and one PhoneSat 2.0. A second PhoneSat launch is expected to occur sometime in 2013.

--
The 2012 Bay Area Maker Faire took place May 19th to the 20th. Several news reports estimate that 65,000 to 70,000 attended this ever growing West Coast event that was held the same weekend as the Dayton Hamvention. (Phonesat Team)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ARISS DIGIPETER MOVES TO 437.550 MHZ

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station or ARISS digipeater has changed frequency from 145.825 MHz to 437.550 MHz. Packet operations were moved to the Columbus Module UHF radio when the

Kenwood D700 radio was recently powered off due to needing an additional air purifier to support the recently arrived Automated Transfer Vehicle or ATV.

Normally the air purifier is located in the ATV but recent power support issues necessitated the system be relocated to the Service Module. As a result the purifier is now using the power outlet that the Kenwood radio normally uses.

The Russian team has agreed to briefly power the purifier off for the scheduled ARISS school events but then will re-activate the purifier right afterwards. This appears to be a long term impact as ATV is currently scheduled to depart from ISS in September. (ARISS, AMSAT, N5VHO)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: NASA SCRAPS GEMS X-RAY RESEARCH TELESCOPE PROJECT

According to space.com, NASA has cancelled a project to build an X-ray telescope designed to look for black holes, neutron stars, and the remnants of dead star systems and radio the results back to Earth. This due to cost overruns.

The GEMS telescope, short for Gravity and Extreme Magnetism Small Explorer, had a budget of $105 million plus additional costs associated with launching it into space. But what have been termed as soaring development costs caused NASA to scrap the project.

The telescope was reportedly still in the design stage and no hardware had been built when the space agency pulled the plug on the mission. (Space)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: EFC 2012 ON THE AIR.

On the air keep your ears open for numerous special event stations from the Ukraine and Poland to be active during the 2012 European Football Championship 2012 that runs through July 5th. This is an on-the-air activity by Polish and Ukrainian amateurs that are affiliated with PZK and UARL national societies and will use special prefixes such as 3Z2012 from Poland and EM2012 from the Ukraine to mention only two. Operations will be on all the amateur bands and there are two awards which can be earned during this period. More detailed information about their activities can be found on the web at efc2012.pzk.org.pl. (Southgate)

**

DX

In DX, word that F4EBT will be traveling in the French Polynesia area of the Pacific until 24th June. He is using the callsign FO stroke

F4EBT from at least two different locations in the Islands on the Air OC-046 group and at least four different islands in the OC-067 group. QSLs go via his home call or via the French bureau.

NK8O is working at Mwanza on Lake Victoria, Tanzania and plans to be active as 5H3CP through June 22nd. Activity will be in his spare time with QRP power on various HF bands using CW. QSL direct to his home call.

Lastly, M0AEP under the call VP2MDD will be on the air from Montserrat until August 6th. He says that he will concentrate on 12, 10 and 6 meters. Please QSL this operation as directed on the air.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: SHORTWAVE NEWS: WASHINGTON DC GATHERING FINDS NEW INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING INITIATIVES

And finally this week, a large number of the presentations at the recent National Association of Shortwave Broadcasters meeting centered on the idea how shortwave radio can find a place in the 21st century. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

Dismissed by some as a relic of the Cold War era disappearing under the shadow of emerging digital communications, many of the conference's speakers argued that the answer to shortwave's future may reside in providing service to areas of the world with little electric power. Also, that it remains an effective means of relaying information to citizens of countries with repressive regimes. It was noted that because shortwave radio is harder to interrupt than the Internet, Radio Free Asia, the conference host, broadcasts to the highly censored areas like North Korea.

Presenting the results of a study on which audiences were tuning into shortwave across the globe was Dr. Kim Andrew Elliott. Elliott is an audience research specialist. He pointed out that in countries like Nigeria and Zimbabwe, people tended to own more radios than televisions. According to Elliott. 32% of those surveyed face to face in the impoverished, politically tumultuous nation of Zimbabwe said that they own shortwave radios,

Another presenter was Thomas Witherspoon, who founded Ears to Our World. This is a U-S based non-profit organization that supplies shortwave radios to developing, conflict-riddled nations like South Sudan. Witherspoon said he is skeptical when people dismiss shortwave radio's future on premises like the Internet is everywhere.

Witherspoon says that we can look at the reasons why radio is on the decline, or instead the ways we can invest in shortwave radio and why

we should do that. He says that it's affordable, and broadcasters are doing it pretty efficiently.

One of the conference's attendees was Shahnaz Ghavami of the United States FCC. She said that after that after spending the day with the international broadcasters it makes you think about shortwave as something new.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heater Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, in Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

The National Association of Shortwave Broadcasters meeting was held May 10th and 11th in Washington, D.C. (RW, B&C, others)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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141. Kids Day - Saturday, June 16, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-15 12:27:29 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120615112129.9A427268A1@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 260
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

Kids Day is this Saturday, June 16, 2012, from 1800 through 2359 UTC. As the ARRL Web site notes, “Kids Day is an on-air event to encourage young people (licensed or not) to have fun with Amateur Radio. It is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children.”

The suggested exchange is name, age, location and favorite color. Be sure to work the same station again if an operator has changed. To draw attention, call “CQ Kids Day.” For suggested frequencies and more information about Kids Day, see http://www.arrl.org/kids-day. Invite a kid to your shack and help them get on the air in this casual, fun event. And listen this Saturday for stations calling “CQ Kids Day.”

This Saturday will be a great time for all of us to share the excitement and joy we have found in ham radio by helping young people get on the air!

73, Cliff K0CA

ARRL Midwest Division
Director: Cliff Ahrens, K0CA
k0ca@arrl.org
---

142. July 2012 QST - Digital Edition

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-15 13:55:32 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120615125857.67FF226E2C4@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 261
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

*July 2012 QST - Digital Edition - *Go Now>
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201207/>
Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201207/>

Digital QST

Dear ARRL Member,June 2012 QST - Digital Edition
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201207/>

The digital edition of July /QST/ is available now! Go to this link and
start reading: July 2012 /QST/
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201207/>

*Here is a sample of what awaits you!
*

* How's Solar Cycle 24 working for you? Learn what you can expect in
the future.
* Wire dipole antennas don't have to be straight. Find out why.
* Optimize 43-foot vertical antennas for better performance on higher
bands.
* Learn about a "mystery" transceiver that returned to ARRL HQ after
32 years.
* See ARRL Laboratory reviews of the new Alinco DJ-G29T transceiver
and WaveNode WN-2d station monitoring system.
* Discover how you can enjoy the benefits of software defined radio
with an analog transceiver.
* ...and more!

*Your July issue of digital /QST/ also has content you won't find in the
printed magazine...*

* Video overviews of the Alinco DJ-G29T and the WaveNode WN-2d.
* An audio interview with Ken Kopp, Kï¿½PP, about the "mystery" transceiver.
* Extra information about upgrading your analog radio to SDR.
* The Considerate Operator's Frequency Guide.
* Book review: /Blackbird/, a military thriller with Amateur Radio as
part of the plot.
* A link to the ARRL multimedia page where you can watch the winning
videos in the 2nd Annual ARRL Video Contest.
* An in-depth report on the 2012 Dayton Hamvention, including a list
of products that made their first appearance at the show.

Every issue of /QST/ is filled with the news and features you need to
keep active in Amateur Radio. After you read through it, visit the
Digital /QST/ Feedback Form

<http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-feedback-form> and tell us what you enjoyed!

73,

Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Editor

P.S. Remember ARRL Field Day is June 23-24. Event information and details for ordering official 2012 Field Day merchandise (shirts, hats, and pins) can be found at www.arrl.org/fieldday.
<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

What is a digital edition?
The digital edition of /QST/ is a web-based edition of the journal...a way to read and interact with the current issue of /QST/ anytime, anywhere. It simulates the look and feel of our printed version, complete with page flipping, indexing and easy ways to move around to get to the content you want. You can choose to read it online, or download the entire issue to your laptop. Each issue includes unique, digital-edition-only content such as video, audio features and extra content. Members can also access the digital archive for access to previous issues.

How do I access the digital edition?
Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access this benefit. You can always find a link to the current digital edition and archives at www.arrl.org/qst <http://www.arrl.org/qst>.

To login or register, go to www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

Forgot password? Go to www.arrl.org/forgot-password <http://www.arrl.org/forgot-password> to reset your password.

Not a member? Join today <http://www.arrl.org/join/QDF> and get access to the current digital edition, now.

Need help? Visit the digital edition help page <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq> for frequently asked questions. Need more help? Contact Member Services by telephone 860-594-0200 or 888-277-5289 (US only) or email circulation@arrl.org <mailto:circulation@arrl.org>.

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You can choose to opt-out* of the mailed, print edition of /QST/ at any time. Complete our online opt-out form <http://www.arrl.org/QST-print-edition-opt-out-form>. Due to the lead time required to prepare /QST/ for mailing, you may receive one last printed issue.
* Disclaimer: Choosing to opt-out of the print edition of /QST/ is voluntary and will not result in a refund or reduction of ARRL

membership dues. Any savings will be used to extend the ARRL's reach in the areas of public service, education, advocacy, technology and membership.

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Digital QST

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www.arrl.org <http://www.arrl.org>

143. FCC Daily Digest 06/19/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-19 15:36:53 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522119-2012.06.19-11.00.07--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 262
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 118 June 19, 2
012

[...]

TODD WILSON. Modified the operator license of Todd Wilson for amateur se
rvice Station WH6DWF. (Dkt No. 99-87). Action by: Deputy Chief, Mobility
Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. Adopted: 06/18/2012 by ORDE
R. (DA No. 12-961). WTB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch
/DA-12-961A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-961A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-961A1.txt

[...]

144. FCC Daily Digest 06/21/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-21 16:53:30 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522156-2012.06.21-12.14.32--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 263
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 120 June 21, 2
012

[...]

Report No: 2955 Released: 06/21/2012. PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF ACT
ION IN RULEMAKING PROCEEDING. (Dkt No 04-37 03-104). CGB http://hraunfos
s.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314745A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314745A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314745A1.txt

[...]

145. Re: FCC Daily Digest 06/21/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-21 18:59:56 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <4fe35a81$0$12471$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 264
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <ADMIN-44256-522156-2012.06.21-12.14.32--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
noreply@info.fcc.gov writes:

>(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)
>

>Daily Digest

>Vol. 31 No. 120 June 21, 2012

> [...]

>Report No: 2955 Released: 06/21/2012. PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF
>ACTION IN RULEMAKING PROCEEDING. (Dkt No 04-37 03-104). CGB
>http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314745A1.doc
>http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314745A1.pdf
>http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-314745A1.txt

> [...]

The ARRL filed a Petition for Reconsideration to the FCC concerning ET
Docket No. 04-37 ("AMENDMENT OF PART 15 REGARDING NEW REQUIREMENTS AND
MEASUREMENT GUIDELINES FOR ACCESS BROADBAND OVER POWER LINE SYSTEMS")
and ET Docket No. 03-104 ("CARRIER CURRENT SYSTEMS INCLUDING BROADBAND
OVER POWER LINE SYSTEMS") on December 20, 2011. The entire text of the
ARRL's most recent filing may be found in the FCC's Electronic Comment
Filing System (ECFS) at:

http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016878685
http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016878554
http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016878684
http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016878557

Previous Ex Parte presentations to the FCC from the ARRL concerning ET
Docket No: 04-37, dated November 30, 2010 and June 9, 2011, including
attached exhibits, may be found in the ECFS at:

http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016062528

and:

http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7021688070

All proceedings on these two dockets may be found at:

http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=04-37
http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=03-104

(73, Paul, K3FU)

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAk/jWlAACgkQ6Pj0az779o6SbACdHhbkRmihQrS8pQehblvD6LfZ
4MEAn12ckCOI1hrzlL0bxYHn+3bQ9iLb
=D1Vd
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

146. The ARRL Letter for June 21, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-21 22:07:11 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120621184151.5211C2774A@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 265
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

****
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
****

June 21, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + ARRL Field Day: ARRL Field Day is This Weekend: Are You Ready?
- ARRL Field Day: W1AW Announces 2012 Field Day Bulletin Schedule
- + Amateur Radio in the Classroom: ARRL Executive Committee Approves Resource Grants for 11 Schools
- + 2011 ARRL Annual Report Now Available
- + Getting Licensed: New Amateur Extra Class Question Pool Effective July 1
- + On the Air: ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee Seeks Comments on Proposed 23 cm Band Plan
- + FCC News: FCC Downgrades Hawaiian Ham's License
- Yasme Foundation Announces Awards, Expanded List of Eligible Call Signs
- Solar Update
- + New Section Manager Appointed in South Dakota
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL FIELD DAY: ARRL FIELD DAY IS THIS WEEKEND: ARE YOU READY?

Tens of thousands of Amateur Radio operators will be firing up portable radio stations from unexpected locations this weekend for ARRL Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>. On June 23-24, more than 35,000 hams are expected to operate from parks, malls, schools and. yes, fields, around the country. Field Day is the climax of the week-long Amateur Radio Week sponsored by the ARRL. As of June 19, more than 20 states and countless cities and towns have issued proclamations thanking and supporting the hams for their community service work. Looking for a Field Day location? Check out the Field Day Locator <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>. Find information for media and the general public here <http://www.arrl.org/2012FieldDay>. Find

information for radio amateurs and participants here <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>. Check the ARRL Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org> and the ARRL Twitter feed <http://twitter.com/arrl> throughout Field Day weekend for live updates.

==> ARRL FIELD DAY: W1AW ANNOUNCES 2012 FIELD DAY BULLETIN SCHEDULE

Stations active during ARRL Field Day -- June 23-24 -- are eligible to receive 100 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW (or K6KPH on the West Coast). You must include an accurate copy of the message in your Field Day submission. The Field Day bulletin must be copied via Amateur Radio; it will not be included in Internet bulletins sent out from Headquarters and will not be posted to Internet BBS sites.

W1AW will operate on the regularly published frequencies. The special PSK31 bulletin will be transmitted on the regular W1AW digital frequencies:

- CW frequencies: 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675 and 147.555 MHz.
- Digital frequencies (includes PSK31 and MFSK16) using 45.45-baud Baudot: 3597.5, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095 and 147.555 MHz.
- Phone frequencies: 1.855, 3.990, 7.290, 14.290, 18.160, 21.390, 28.590 and 147.555 MHz.

The Maritime Radio Historical Society's K6KPH will transmit the 2012 W1AW Field Day message for the benefit of West Coast stations on 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975 and 21.0675 MHz, CW only. The frequencies for K6KPH Digital (RTTY, BPSK31 MFSK16 and FEC AMTOR) will be 7.095 and 14.095 MHz. Click here <http://www.arrl.org/news/w1aw-announces-2012-field-day-bulletin-schedule> for the complete schedule.

==> + AMATEUR RADIO IN THE CLASSROOM: ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVES RESOURCE GRANTS FOR 11 SCHOOLS

In June, the ARRL Executive Committee reviewed grant applications for the ARRL's Education & Technology Program (ETP), awarding equipment and resources valued at nearly $16,000 to 11 schools. More than 590 schools across the country have received support from the ETP in the form of grants for equipment, curriculum and resources, as well as teacher in-service training through the Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology. Applications for equipment and resource grants are accepted twice each year; application deadlines are May 1 and November 1. A central goal of the ETP is to develop a foundation of wireless technology literacy among America's teachers and students. It employs Amateur Radio to explore radio science and electronics and provide hands-on activities that engage students' minds and imaginations, opening doorways into math, science and technology curriculum topics, as well as other core curriculum areas such as geography and language

arts. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-executive-committee-approves-resource-grants-for-11-schools>.

==> + 2011 ARRL ANNUAL REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The ARRL Annual Report for 2011 -- now available online -- reviews the major events of the year and documents the renewed growth of both the ARRL and the activities of the Amateur Radio Service. For the fifth consecutive year, ARRL membership grew -- totaling 157,813 members at year end.

According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, Amateur Radio is flourishing: "Despite challenges on many fronts, Amateur Radio and the ARRL were in better shape at the end of 2011 than at the beginning. In September, we reached a milestone in amateur licensing, with 700,000 individuals licensed by the FCC, and reached 702,056 at the end of December, up .86 percent for the year." Sumner noted that ARRL membership also grew at .86 percent, exactly the same rate as the licensing numbers. "While membership is still short of its all-time high, we have achieved five straight years of growth, straight through the recession," he said. "This record of success is testimony to the professionalism of our membership staff as well as to the diligent efforts of everyone, volunteer and staff alike, who contributes every day to a positive image of the ARRL in the Amateur Radio community." Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/2011-arrl-annual-report-now-available>.

==> + GETTING LICENSED: NEW AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL EFFECTIVE JULY 1

The new Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool
<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=358> -- released by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC
<http://www.ncvec.org/>) in January 2012 -- becomes effective on Sunday, July 1. The current Amateur Extra class pool expires on June 30, 2012 and cannot be used after that date. This new question pool -- including graphics and diagrams -- will remain valid until June 30, 2016. The new Amateur Extra pool contains 702 questions, from which 50 are selected for an Element 4 examination. As of June 13, three questions -- E1D09, E2A14 and E6E10 -- have been removed
<http://www.arrl.org/withdrawn-questions> from the new pool. The current Technician class question pool
<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=349> that became effective July 1, 2010 is valid through June 30, 2014. The current General class pool
<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=350> that became effective July 1, 2011 is valid until June 30, 2015.

==> + ON THE AIR: ARRL UHF/MICROWAVE BAND PLAN COMMITTEE SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 23 CM BAND PLAN

<http://www.arrl.org/images/view/News/Proposed23cmBandPlan.jpg> Last winter, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee asked the Amateur Radio community about current, planned and projected uses of the Amateur bands between 902 MHz and 3.5 GHz. The excellent level of response provided us with the basis to complete drafts of the 9 cm, 13 cm and 33 cm revised band plans for ARRL Board approval. The Committee has now prepared for your consideration a draft band plan for 23 cm (1240-1300 MHz), the final band on its assigned list. Please look over the accompanying draft and let us know if you have any major concerns. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-uhf-microwave-band-plan-committee-seeks-comments-on-proposed-23-cm-band-plan>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC DOWNGRADES HAWAIIAN HAM'S LICENSE

On June 18, the FCC issued an Order of Modification <http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0619/DA-12-961A1.pdf>, modifying the license class of Todd Wilson, WH6DWF, of Honolulu, Hawaii, from General to Technician. This stems from an Order Proposing Modification released in March 2012 <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-modify-hawaiian-ham-s-license> where the FCC stated <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-408A1.pdf> that granting General class Amateur Radio operator privileges to Wilson was "improper." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-downgrades-hawaiian-ham-s-license>.

==> YASME FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES AWARDS, EXPANDED LIST OF ELIGIBLE CALL SIGNS

The Yasme Foundation <http://www.yasme.org/> currently offers two awards. The Yasme Award, in the form of a handsome plaque, is offered to those radio amateurs who submit proof of 30 QSOs with Yasme officials and DXpeditions that have at least one Yasme official as a participant. The Yasme Supreme Award is in the form of a representation of the YASME boat used by Danny Weil in his around-the-world DXpedition. It is available to those who submit proof of 60 QSOs with YASME officials and DXpeditions with a Yasme official as a participant. These awards are available to qualifying applicants at no cost. After a year-long evaluation of the rules, the Yasme Board of Directors has revised the rules for those call signs that may be used to qualify for the two awards, with many new ones added to the list. The Yasme Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to Amateur Radio, including DXing and the introduction and promotion of Amateur Radio in underdeveloped countries. -- Thanks to the Yasme Foundation for the information

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "It's brighter than sunshine <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q536JTSe40M>" Cook, K7RA, reports:

Sunspot numbers seemed to be in a free-fall this week: The average daily sunspot numbers declined more than 29 points to 87, while the average daily solar flux fell 6.2 points to 126.2. The outlook for Field Day weekend -- June 22-23 -- is for low sunspot numbers and quiet geomagnetic conditions. The predicted daily solar flux is just 90 for June 21-28, 125 on June 29-July 7, then 130, 135 and 140 on July 8-10, and then rising to 145 on July 11-12. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on June 21-29, then 8 on June 30, 15 on July 1-3, 8 on July 4-5, 5 on July 6-7, 8 on July 8-9, and back down to 5 on July 10-14. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, June 22. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Aqualung's Brighter than Sunshine <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aqualung_%28musician%29>.

==> + NEW SECTION MANAGER APPOINTED IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Chris Stallkamp, W0ADZ, of Selby, South Dakota, has been appointed as the South Dakota Section Manager, effective June 15. ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, made the appointment in consultation with Dakota Division Director Greg Widin, K0GW, and with the recommendation of outgoing South Dakota Section Manager Scott Rausch, WA0VKC. Rausch, of Piedmont, has served as South Dakota Section Manager since April 2009. He decided not to run for a new two-year term of office that was scheduled to begin on April 1. After a re-solicitation for nominations this spring did not result in any potential candidates, Stallkamp was then appointed to take the Section Manager reins from Rausch. Stallkamp's appointment extends until March 31, 2014. Stallkamp has been a radio amateur since 2006, and is a member of the Black Hills Amateur Radio Club. Interest in Amateur Radio runs in his family: Both his mother Margaret, KA0BEB, and father Lloyd, KA0ADZ, of Havre, Montana, are also licensed Amateur Radio operators.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- June 23-24 -- ARRL Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/fieldday>; His Majesty King of Spain Contest (SSB); Marconi Memorial HF Contest; Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest
- June 27 -- SKCC Sprint
- June 27-28 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- July 1 -- RAC Canada Day Contest; WAB 144 MHz Low Power Contest (Phone)
- July 2-8 -- 10-10 International Spirit of '76 QSO Party
- July 3 -- ARS Spartan Sprint
- July 5 -- Michigan QRP July 4th CW Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electronics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012 <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-hamfest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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147. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-22 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1340344801@panix.com>
Source record: 266
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

148. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-22 06:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1340345100@panix.com>
Source record: 267
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

149. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1819 - June 22 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-22 09:00:12 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120622090003.CF79533C94@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 268
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1819 - June 22 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1819 with a release date of June 22, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. U-K hams learn that they will have to share two meters with the 2012 Olympics; the I-A-R-U High Frequency Championship to take place in July; German hams get spectrum at 472 KHz and Radio Netherlands to cease English language broadcasts. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1819 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: UK HAMS TO SHARE 2 METERS WITH OLYMPICS

Ham radio operators in London will be temporarily giving up a part of the 2 meter band to accommodate the 2012 Olympic Games. Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, reports from Nottingham in the UK:

--

British telecommunications regulator Ofcom has announced that a small block of the amateur radio 144 MHz band is to be used for the London 2012 Summer Olympic Games.

The RSGB have issued the following announcement: Following negotiations to minimize the impact on amateurs, Ofcom has now announced that it will temporarily authorize a small block of 12.5kHz channels, ranging from 144.0125MHz to 144.1375MHz, for the period 27 July to 28 August 2012 only.

The frequencies to be used specifically exclude 144.0500MHz the CW Calling frequency and 144.1000MHz which is the Perseids Meteor Scatter CW Calling channel.

Ofcom are aware of the various amateur contests scheduled for 4 and 7 August and will work with Game users to keep operations to a minimum on these dates.

Usage of this spectrum by Games users will be in the vicinity of London Olympic venues and will be limited to handheld equipment operating on a maximum of 5W output.

I'm Jeramy Boot, G4NJH.

--

Ofcom emphasizes that use of primary amateur spectrum is only for the specified time period and does not constitute a change of usage. More is on line on the RSGB 2012 Olympic Pages at www.rsgb.org/olympics. (RSGB)

**

RADIOSPORTS: IARU HF CHAMPIONSHIP ON JULY 14 - 15

The International Amateur Radio Union sponsored High Frequency World Championship 2012 will take place beginning 1200 UTC on Saturday July 14th and ending 1200 UTC on Sunday July 15th. The objective of this contest is to contact as many other amateurs, especially IARU member society Headquarters stations, around the world as possible. This, using the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands. The rules for this year are available on line at tinyurl.com/iaru-hf-championship. (XE1R, IARU-R2)

**

RESTRUCTURING: GERMAN CLASS A HAMS GET 472 KHZ PRIVILEGES

German amateurs with a Class A license are now allowed to operate in the new 472 to 479 kHz band. The power limit is 1 watt effective radiated with a maximum signal bandwidth of 800Hz. (GB2RS)

**

RADIO POLITICS: UAE GOVERNMENT REGULATOR MEETS WITH NATIONAL HAM RADIO SOCIERT

The Emirates Amateur Radio Society has met with the United Arab Emirates Telecommunications Regulatory Authority or T-R-A. This to discuss amateur radio issues.

According to news reports, the meeting shed light on Emirates Amateur Radio Society perspectives related to regulations for radio communications amateurs issued by the T-R-A. This included amateur radio authorizations, frequencies used by U-A-E hams, the mechanism of authorizing visitors and residents to operate in that nation, and cooperation and coordination between the two groups during various activities. The two sides also discussed ways to utilize ham radio to support governmental entities while performing public service activities and at international competitions throughout the year.

At that gathering, the T-R-A stated that the United Arab Emirates is a country concerned with providing various types of communications to users including radio communications. It said that meeting with a specialized entity such as the society is highly important in order to promote radio communications in the country. It added that this meeting garners further significance especially when it takes into consideration that the United Arab Eemirates is a country that hosts numerous desert sports activities and competitions. This it says makes

radio communications a key issue particularly with regard to cases of accidents, disasters, or being lost in the desert.

The meeting took place at the TRA headquarters in Abu Dhabi and brought to light a number of issues related to radio communications. The full report of the meeting in English can be read at tinyurl.com/uae-hams. (Southgate News)

**

PROPAGATION: DOUBLE CME HITS EARTH CAUSING AURORAS

SpaceWeather reports that a geomagnetic storm occured in the wake of the Suns double Coronal Mass Ejection or C-M-E impact on June 16. The hit, which strongly compressed Earth's magnetic field, lit up both poles with bright auroras.

Here in the United States and Canada, the Northern Lights descended as far south as Oregon, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Washington state and the Dakotas. And as ham radio operators know, this C-M-E also made for some rather interesting conditions on the air, especially on 50 Mhz and above. (SpaceWeather.com)

**

TECHNOLOGY: PHASE MODULATION TESTS ON WWVB

The National Institute of Standards and Technology or N-I-S-T is currently testing phase modulation in addition to the existing amplitude modulation on time standard station WWVB. The AM signal continues while the phase modulation is tested, so there should not be any interruption in service to existing AM devices. However, the NIST warns that phase-locked loop devices AM devices may lose signal lock at times during the tests. The experiment will end prior to the June 30th leap second correction. Questions or comments can be forwarded to WWVB Broadcast Manager John Lowe by e-mail at john (dot) lowe (at) nist (dot) gov. (WB5ITT)

**

BANDPLANNING: COMMENTS SOUGHT ON PROPOSED 23 CM BANDPLAN

Rick Roderick K5UR, who chairs the ARRL UHF and Microwave Band Plan Committee is asking for input on the new proposed amateur 23 cm bandplan. K5UR requests that the ham radio community look over the draft band plan and let him know if you have any major concerns, You can see and download the proposed plan at tinyurl.com/23-cm-plan. Comments go by e-mail to microwave-band-plan (at) arrl (dot) org. (ARRL, Southgate)

**

RADIO LAW: COMMUNICATIONS TOWER LIGHTS NOW FOR THE BIRDS

Federal Aviation Administration officials have decided that operators of tall towers may turn off one type of warning light that may be a cause of bird collisions, and do so without endangering those flying aircraft.

According to news reports federal wildlife researchers found migratory birds get disoriented by steady red warning lights. As a result the FAA has determined it may be okay to turn those off because they claim that pilots can still see towers at night using flashing red warning lights.

Federal wildlife researchers and some conservationists claim that close to 7 million migrating birds die each year when they hit communications towers in the United States and Canada. Broadcasters and other tower owners doubt the number is that high. They point to counter research collated by the FCC that says more birds die from cats and flying into structures such as high rise building windows.

The FCC hasn't made the new light scheme mandatory but officials said recently they would honor the change. You may recall that back last December, the commission began requiring formal public notice and requiring for new towers taller than 450 feet. Also required is an environmental assessment of the potential impact of a new tower on migratory birds. (RW)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W8HVG repeater serving all of southern Michigan.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC CORRECTS LICENSE CLASS PAPERWORK ERROR

The FCC has modified the Amateur Radio Service license of Todd Wilson, WH6DWF, of Honolulu, Hawaii. This by replacing his General Class operator privileges with Technician Class operator privileges.

No, Wilson did nothing wrong. Rather he was the innocent victim of a clerical error by the ARRL VEC. Heres the back story.

By correspondence dated January 13, 2012, the ARRL VEC notified the Commission that it had made an error in the November 29, 2011 data file and that Wilson was qualified for a Technician Class operator license but not a General Class. Therefore, ARRL VEC requested that the FCC modify Wilson's license to correct the operator privileges authorized.

The Order of Modification was released on March 15, 2012. Wilson did not protest the proposed modification of his license within the requisite thirty-day time frame. Accordingly, he is deemed to have

consented to the proposed modification. Based on the record before it, on June 19th the FCC concluded that it is in the pubic interest to modify the license for Amateur Radio Service Station WH6DWF by changing the authorized operating privileges from General Class to Technician Class. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: ANOTHER UNLICENSED FLORIDA ISSUED $15000 NAL

The Tampa FCC Office has issued a $15,000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Albert R. Knighten, Jr.. This for apparently willfully and repeatedly violating Section 301 of the Communications by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 107.5 MHz from his residence in Fort Myers, Florida. Amateur Radio Newsline's Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, has the details:

--

On December 1st and 9th, 2011, agents from the Enforcement Bureau's Tampa Office T-hunted a signal on 107.5 MHz to an FM transmitting antenna mounted on a tower at Knighten's residence. Agents also determined that the signals on 107.5 MHz exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 of the Commission's rules and therefore required a license.

On December 9, 2011, local law enforcement executed a search warrant for the premises. At that time agents from the FCC Tampa Office interviewed Knighten who was present in his residence when the station was on the air. During the interview Knighten admitted to purchasing and installing the radio equipment. He also claimed to be the sole person operating the unlicensed station and had been doing so for over a month. The FCC agents also inspected the unlicensed radio station before the equipment was seized by local law enforcement.

Now in issuing the Notice of Apparent Liability, the FCC says that because Knighten consciously operated the station and on more than one day, the apparent violation of the Communications Act was both willful and repeated. As such, and based on the evidence before it, that a $15,000 penalty is warranted.

--

Knighten was given the customary 30 days to pay the $15,000 N-A-L or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: INCOMPLETE PAPERWORK LEADS TO $10000 FINE FOR NYC COLLEGE STATION

Columbia University in New York City has been issued a $10,000 Monetary Forfeiture based on documents missing from the public inspection file of its non-commercial station WKCR- FM. Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred

Vobbe, W8HDU, is here with the details":

--

The case is unusual because WKCR stated on its renewal application that since its transmission facilities on the World Trade Center had been destroyed on 9/11, the station has faced operating difficulties. As such, it has been transmitting from various temporary locations and with a reduced coverage area.

According to several media reports, Columbia University was totally truthful on its license renewal application. It admitted that WKCR's public file was incomplete. It said the quarterly issues and program lists were not missing deliberately but inadvertently.

However in rendering its decision, the FCC said the missing files occurred over the entire eight-year period of the license grant. This, included a four-year period before its transmitting facilities were destroyed. As such, the regulatory agency stated that WKCR's violations we both serious and displayed a pattern of abuse of the FCC's rules. Because of this, the station came close to having its license renewal granted for a short term period. However the Media Bureau decided not to take that route because WKCR is due to file its next renewal application February 1, 2014.

In the end. the Commission decided that overall WKCR has served the public interest during its license term. That's why it will grant the renewal separately once the forfeiture proceeding is concluded.

For the amateur radio Newsline, Im Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, in Lima, Ohio.

--

Columbia University was given the customary 30 days from the date the FCC decision was rendered to pay the penalty or to file an appeal. (RW, FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: SCRAP METAL THEFT BECOME A FELONY IN FLORIDA

It's about to get a lot more difficult harder to sell a stolen piece of transmission line or any form of purloined metal in Florida. This as the state severely tightens regulations on how scrap metal dealers operate their businesses in that state. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, reports:

--

The new rules that go into effect on July 1st make stealing copper from a utility or communications services provider a Florida state first-degree felony. This translates into the possibility of a thief being sentenced to a 30-year prison sentence and a $10,000 fine. The law also makes knowingly purchasing stolen metals a third-degree

felony, which could mean five years in prison and a $5,000 fine for the purchaser.

But the change likely to have the greatest influence on copper theft is the banning of cash payments for scrap metal. Under the new law all payments must be made by check or an electronic payment system, and payment may be delayed by up to three days.

All scrap-metal dealers will have to be registered with the state, and dealers will be required to keep better records of all purchases, including photographs of the material bought. If they purchase an item with a serial number on it, the dealer will have to check a state database to make sure the item has not been reported stolen.

As to the perpetrators of such thefts, the new law waives civil liability for property owners if someone is injured or killed while trying to steal copper or other regulated materials. In other words a thief or a surviving relative of the thief will not be permitted to file a law suit trying to hold those who own the stolen metals responsible for the perpetrators injuries or death.

Florida Governor Rick Scott signed the bill into law at the end of April.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

Copper theft has been an increasing problem for broadcasters, power companies and other industries that use these metals. This is particularly true for those located at remote and unattended sites. Even ham radio operators have in the past years reported theft of antenna transmission lines. (CGC, RW)

**

HAM RADIO BUSINESS: SUPERANTENNA RETURNS TO THE HAM RADIO MARKETPLACE

SuperAntenna Corporation, maker of the legendary MP1 Portable Antenna and YP3 Portable Yagi, is back in business.

Super Antenna was begun in 2000 by Vern Wright, W6MMA. As some of you may know, the company ceased operations a few years ago to sort out what it termed as legal issues.

On June 18th Super Antenna issued a press release stating that the new company has already begun shipping the MP1 portable antenna and the YP3 portable yagi. Both it claims have been re-engineered to a higher standard of performance.

Super Antenna has also announced a new web site where hams radio operators can get information on Super Antenna products. Its in cyberspace at www.newsuperantenna.com. (Via e-mail)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAMS IN BROADCASTING VOIP GROUP

Hams in Broadcasting is a new on-line V-O-I-P group that connects those in the broadcasting industry with one another world-wide. The system interconnects IRLP conference bridge 9615, Echolink conference 96150 and Allstar Node 27405 for 24 hour a day communication and chatting between hams who are in the broadcast field. For more information on the "Hams in Broadcast" conference bridge, take a look at tinyurl.com/ar-conference-bridge

Also of note are two nets that meet on the bridge. Every Sunday night at 8:00 PM Eastern there is a general "Hams in Broadcast Net." It is usually hosted by Bruce Schiller, WA2ZST, who works for the CBS network in New York City.

There also is a twice a month "SBE Hams on the Air" net. More information on that gathering is at tinyurl.com/broadcasters-voip (Hams in Broadcasting)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: AMSAT 2012 SYMPOSIUM INFORMATION UPDATE

The 2012 AMSAT Annual Meeting and Space Symposium will be held in Orlando, Florida on the weekend of October 26th to the 28th. This at the Holiday Inn Orlando Airport Hotel.

The Symposium weekend will feature sessions on various ham radio satellites, operating techniques, news and plans from the amateur satellite world. Also taking place will be the annual Board of Directors Meeting, the annual General Membership Meeting and banquet.

For the latest updates please bookmark tinyurl.com/amsat-symposium-2012 (2012 Symposium Committee)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W0ADZ APPOINTED NEW SOUTH DAKOTA SM

Some names in the news. Chris Stallkamp, W0ADZ, has been appointed as ARRL South Dakota Section Manager, effective June 15.

ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, made the appointment in consultation with Dakota Division Director Greg Widin, K0GW, and with the recommendation of outgoing South Dakota Section Manager Scott Rausch, WA0VKC.

Rausch had served as South Dakota Section Manager since April 2009. He decided not to run for another term of office that was scheduled to begin on April 1st. After a re-solicitation for nominations this spring did not result in any potential candidates, Stallkamp was then appointed to take the Section Manager reins from Rausch. Stallkamp's appointment extends until March 31, 2014. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VA7MPG ELECTED RAC SM OF BC AND YUKON SECTION

And congratulations to Paul Giffin, VA7MPG who was recently elected Section Manager for Radio Amateurs of Canada's British Columbia and Yukon Section Manager. This, for the balance of his appointed term that ends October 30, 2013. VA7MPG ran unopposed eliminating the need for a balloted election. (RAC)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: RADIO NETHERLANDS WORLDWIDE TO CEASE ENGLISH LANGUAGE BROADCASTS ON JUNE 29TH

Radio Netherlands English service will closes down at the end of June. According to the International broadcaster, the decision to curtail English language transmissions on June 29th is the result of steep budget cuts imposed by the Dutch government and a concomitant change in focus of the station. As such, providing the world with what it terms as a realistic image of the Netherlands, as it has done since 1947, will no longer be one of its statutory duties.

According to the stations website, as of July 1st there will no longer be a daily review of the Dutch papers and coverage of Dutch news stories will also cease. And, since the English webstream will also end on June 29th, there will be a Listening Guide posted or mailed out.

For its final English language transmission on June 29th, Radio Netherlands plans to broadcast a show looking back at the past decades of its service. Its asking listeners who may have a memory to share to sent that by e-mail to letters (at) rnw (dot) nl.

The shut down of the long popular Radio Netherlands English language transmissions follow the closure of the Dutch service in May. More is on-line at www.rnw.nl/english/article/were-changing (RNW)

**

MAKING WAVES: HAM RADIO TEST CRUISE OF OH10X/MM ON BALTIC SEA.

Radio Arcala, the massive ham radio contest station that operates as OH8X near the Arctic Circle in association with Kristina Cruises Ltd. are in the process of testing to see if a permanent amateur radio station will suit the maritime environment and serve DX'ers in their

leisure time.

The ship used for the first evaluation held June 20th to the 24th was the M/S Kristina Katarina which is owned by a private Finnish company. The onboard ham radio station consisted of an Icom IC-7600 on the top deck. The antenna was a 20 meter long wire fed by a remote antenna tuner.

The first run that was to ascertain any potential interference issues from the amateur radio station to the ship's navigation system. Also to see the impact from the ship's advanced P-C networks to the reception of amateur radio transmissions.

During the test cruise, the station was to be active at the peak propagation hours to various continents on 14.267 MHz. The test cruise took the ship to Estonia, Gotland, Sweden, the Aland Islands, and back to Finland.

In addition to the technical evaluation, famed DXer Martti Laine, OH2BH, was on-board with a target to contact all continents. This to celebrate the signing a possible permanent agreement for the station to be available for guests who hold an amateur radio license.

The M/S Kristina Katarina is a 138 meter long vessel. It has a cruising speed of 15 knots and can hold a maximum of 450 guests. Two Finnair jetliners were available backing the operations for change of passengers at a variety of ports along the way.

For more details on this interesring ham radio cruise evaluation, please take your web browser to www.qrz.com/db/OH10X. Information on the cruise line is at tinyurl.com/ham-cruise. (Radio Arcala)

**

WORLDBEAT: SARL AND ICASA WORKING TOWARD CEPT LIKE VISITORS LICENSE

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa, better known as the ICASA and the South African Radio League are in negotiations to create a CEPT like ham radio license that is universally accepted. In the meantime, the telecommunications regulator says that visitors to South Africa who hold a valid amateur radio license in a Southern African Development Community recognized country may apply for temporary authorization to operate in South Africa. A copy of his or her license and the period to be spent in South Africa, must be presented.

All requests go by e-mail to KMashile (at) icasa (dot) org (dot) za as well as admin (at) sarl (at) org (dot) za. The turn around time for applications will be approximately 48 hours.

According to Wikipedia, The Southern African Development Community is an inter-governmental organization headquartered in Gaborone, Botswana. Its goal is to further socio-economic cooperation and integration as well as political and security cooperation among 15 southern African

states. It complements the role of the African Union. (SARL)

**

ON THE AIR: CYPRUS AND THE EUROPEAN UNION PRESIDENCY

To commemorate the first time that Cyprus will hold the European Union presidency, a the Cyprus Amateur Radio Society have been granted the use of the callsign P-3-E-U for a six month period that expires on December 31st. Using that call sign, club members will host a 24 hour special event operation on July 1st on the High Frequency bands using SSB and CW for the 24 hour event. For the duration of the 6 months of Cyprus holding the presidency club members will be active using the P-3-E-U call on all modes on the High Frequency and VHF bands. A special QSL card will be available. (OPDX)

**

ON THE AIR: K4O CELEBRATES PUERTO RICO FLAG BEARING IN THE LONDON OLYMPICS

On Sunday July 1st 2012, the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee will be celebrating the Flag Bearing of the Puerto Rico Delegation to the Summer Olympic Games in London. To commemorate the event, the Puerto Rico Amateur Radio League will be operating special event station K-4-Oh from the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee headquarters. Actual hours of operation will be 9:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. on June 30th and 9 a.m to 2 p.m. on July 1st. Both are local Puerto Rico time. More information on this operation is on-line at www.prarl.org. (PRARL)

**

DX

In DX, K6ZRH will be on the air portable DU1 from Palawan Island through June 30th. His operation will be on 40, 20 and 15 meters using SSB. QSL this one also direct only to his home call.

K9EL was on the air as FS/K9EL from St. Martin until June 24th. His operation was holiday style on 80 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. If you worked him, QSL to his call book address.

PE1GU will be active as PA6FUN from Ameland Island between July 30th and August 15th. His operation will be on 6 meters only. Modes have not been announced. QSL via PE1GUR, either direct or via the bureau.

ON4QX, will be operational portable P4 from Aruba through July 2nd. Activity will probably be on all High Frequency bands mostly using RTTY. QSL via ON4QX.

An international team of operators plan to visit five islands belonging to Papua New Guinea between October 19th and November 4th. Some of the islands to host their operations include Emirau, Simberi, and Lihir. As we go to air no bands, frequencies or a QSL Manager has been announced.

Lastly, in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the first operation from the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, a group of hams will take to the air using the call sign 1A0C from Santa Maria del Priorato. Their operation will be from July 1st to the 4th on all of the High Frequency bands plus 6 meters. QSLs for contacts with 1A0C can be requested via 1A0Z.

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: THE 12TH USA ARDF CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

And finally this week, a hidden transmitter hunt in California has drawn radio direction finding fans from around the country. Newsline's Joe Moell (MELL) K-zero-O-V, who is also the ARRL's ARDF Coordinator, tells us all about it.

--

Fans of on-foot transmitter hunting gathered in the little village of Mt. Laguna, California early this month for the twelfth annual USA championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding, or ARDF. They came from nine states plus British Columbia, Canada to see who would win the medals and who would be selected to go to the World Championships in Serbia this September. One quarter of them had never been to a national championship foxhunt before.

The big event was sponsored by the Los Angeles Orienteering Club and was organized and hosted by Marvin Johnston KE6HTS. With lots of volunteer help, Marvin set out two challenging championship courses in the forested mountains at 6000 feet elevation, one on two meters and the other on 80 meters, on the weekend of June 1 and 2. In accordance with standard rules of the International Amateur Radio Union, the participants were divided into eleven age and gender categories, so the ones in their 70's didn't have to compete against prime-agers for the gold.

The championship courses were over six kilometers from start to each of the five transmitters and then to the finish. In addition, there was a sprint event to see who could find ten lower-powered transmitters fastest. There was also a foxoring event. That's a new sport that combines orienteering and direction-finding. Competitors were given a map marked with ten circles. When they got inside the area represented by each circle, they could hear a QRP 80-meter transmitter and track it down with RDF. The first to get all ten would win. Before these events, there was a two-day training camp on Wednesday and Thursday, with full-size courses on two meters and 80-meters.

When it was all over, 13 OMs and 6 YLs had received medals to take home with them. For the complete results and photos of these championships, point your Web browser to homingin.com. That's homingin -- as one word --homingin.com. That's also a good place to learn more about bringing on-foot foxhunting to your locality.

For Amateur Radio Newsline, this is Joe Moell K0OV.

--

If you have never been out on a hidden transmitter hunt you are missing one of the most fun aspects of the hobby. If a local club or other group you know of holds these fun events, you might consider joining in and giving it a try. (K0OV)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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150. What did you do on Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-27 05:06:44 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <drpku7h9phrrcctj54nqfreu155dhjjvm7@4ax.com>
Source record: 269

What did you do on Field Day?

My club, the Pahrump (NV) Amateur Radio Repeater Association (PARRA), held its Field Day (FD) at the QTH of one of our members.

Pahrump is in the desert of southern Nevada about 60 miles west of Las Vegas. The normal summer day-time temperature is 105 degrees F. The last couple of years we set up in the desert outside of town. But this year we decided that we were getting too old to stay out in all that sun all day. So this year we operated as a class D station at the member's QTH. His home station already had a tower with a multi-band beam, plus a couple more towers between which we strung wire antennas.

Our sole consession to FD conditions was to operate from the covered patio behind the house instead of in his air-conditioned shack. One member brought an evaporative cooler to cool the patio a bit.

Our host brought his HF rig from his indoor shack to the patio. Another member brought his HF rig from his QTH. One rig was run exclusively on SSB, while the other was used for both SSB abd CW, We operated as class 2D.

About ten club members showed up during the event. We also had about 5 visitors who learned about the event from notices in our two local newspapers and two local TV stations. The TV stations also aired interviews with our host and me describing the event and inviting visitors. Pahrump is a small town, about 35,000 population. The local media really helps to publicize all kinds of local events. I cannot imagine that we would get that kind of publicity in a large city such as nearby Las Vegas.

Our FD's are laid-back affairs. We are there to have fun, chat and joke with each other, and occassionally operate a radio. When the hamburgers and franks were finished cooking, all operating ceased as we ate dinner. I don't know what our final score is, and really I don't care. I was there just to have fun with my friends.

What did you do on Field Day?

Dick Grady, AC7EL
To respond to me privately, email to:
<My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

151. Re: What did you do on Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-27 12:40:29 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <jseuvl$1b1$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 270

On 6/27/2012 1:06 AM, someone@somewhere.com wrote:
> What did you do on Field Day?

I spent the weekend cutting cement so that I can replace the pipes around my pool, trying to get some "UF" electrical cable without having to mortgage my home, and getting ready to take on a new job that's 2,500 miles away.

Sometimes, you just have to say "Maybe next year". :-(

73,

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

152. Re: What did you do on Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-27 17:22:20 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <87cmu7lqdiabj9m5gn3mr2l5mmk9eejerp@4ax.com>
Source record: 271

On Wed, 27 Jun 2012 08:40:29 EDT, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
wrote:

>On 6/27/2012 1:06 AM, someone@somewhere.com wrote:
>> What did you do on Field Day?
>
>I spent the weekend cutting cement so that I can replace the pipes
>around my pool, trying to get some "UF" electrical cable without having
>to mortgage my home, and getting ready to take on a new job that's 2,500
>miles away.
>
>Sometimes, you just have to say "Maybe next year". :-(
>
>73,
>
>Bill, W1AC

I know what you mean, Bill. Ham radio is a great hobby, but sometimes
real life intrudes.
Field day weekend five years ago, my wife and I travelled from Nevada
to Michigan for her mother's funeral.

Dick Grady, AC7EL

153. Re: What did you do on Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-27 17:22:40 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <pmfmu79imu9jh280jq3crjha5g6d2sncp5@4ax.com>
Source record: 272

On Wed, 27 Jun 2012 01:06:44 EDT, <someone@somewhere.com> wrote:

>What did you do on Field Day?
>
>My club, the Pahrump (NV) Amateur Radio Repeater Association (PARRA),
>held its Field Day (FD) at the QTH of one of our members.

Final results:

Hours of operation 11 AM to 7 PM Sat., 8 AM to 11 AM Sun.

Phone: 99 contacts
CW; 55 contacts

100 extra points for publicity.

Not a big total, but we weren't trying to win our category.
We accomplished our main goal: We had FUN!!

Dick Grady, AC7EL
To respond to me privately, email to:
<My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

154. The ARRL Letter for June 28, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-28 20:01:51 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120628184426.12851286A6@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 273
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

June 28, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + Silent Key: Former ARRL General Manager and IARU President Richard
Baldwin, W1RU (SK)
- + Public Service: ARRL Offers Online Public Service Training
- + Notes from the ARRL VEC Desk
- New Volunteer Examiner Apparel and Supply Items Now Available
- + International News: ARRL Attends HAM RADIO 2012 in Germany
- On the Air: ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee Seeks Comments on
Proposed 23 cm Band Plan
- Solar Update
- + DXCC Desk Approves Seven Operations for Credit
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

Please note: Due to the Fourth of July holiday next week, there will be
no ARRL Audio News on Thursday, July 5. The ARRL Letter will be sent
out on its regular schedule.

==> + SILENT KEY: FORMER ARRL GENERAL MANAGER AND IARU PRESIDENT
RICHARD BALDWIN, W1RU (SK)

Richard "Dick" Baldwin, W1RU, of Damariscotta, Maine, passed away on
Thursday, June 21, after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. He
was 92. An ARRL Charter Life Member, Baldwin capped a long career on
the ARRL staff with service as General Manager from 1975 until his
retirement in 1982. He served as Secretary of the International Amateur
Radio Union (IARU) from 1976-1982. After retirement, he continued his
involvement as a volunteer, serving as IARU President from 1982-1999
and as ARRL International Affairs Vice President from 1982-1986.
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Baldwin began his career at ARRL Headquarters in 1948 as an Assistant Secretary. After a brief hiatus to work in the private sector in the early 1950s, he returned in 1956 as Managing Editor of QST, where he was responsible for production of the monthly member journal and all ARRL publications. In 1963, Baldwin became Assistant General Manager and almost immediately got involved with international matters. He organized the Intruder Watch one year later, and served as the ARRL Liaison between the amateurs who monitored the bands and the FCC. Baldwin was named by the ARRL Board to succeed John Huntoon, W1RW, on Huntoon's retirement as General Manager, the position now titled Chief Executive Officer, in 1975. In total, Baldwin wrote 234 articles and columns for QST.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, who succeeded Baldwin as General Manager in 1982, observed that Baldwin is responsible for much of Amateur Radio's success in retaining and expanding its international frequency allocations: "Beginning in 1964, strengthening our position at the International Telecommunication Union in preparation for what ultimately became the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference, was a major preoccupation in Dick's life. He played a key role in developing and implementing the strategy that led to success. Sitting at Dick's elbow in the years leading up to WARC-79 was an extraordinary learning experience for which I will always be grateful."

As IARU President, Baldwin led the development and adoption of a new IARU Constitution and oversaw the continued strengthening of the IARU as the spokesman for Amateur Radio at the ITU and in regional telecommunications organizations. In 1999, he was named IARU President Emeritus for his service to the IARU and the Amateur Radio Service. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/former-arrl-general-manager-and-iaru-president-richard-baldwin-w1ru-sk>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: ARRL OFFERS ONLINE PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING

The former Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC) series of three levels of emergency communications courses has been reconfigured into two new courses: An introductory course for radio amateurs who want to volunteer to provide services for public service and emergency communications, and a course for leaders and managers who are responsible for training and coordinating response efforts. The course descriptions for both of these courses that make up the ARRL's ARES® training program can be found in the ARRL Online Course Catalog. Links to register for each course are included in the course descriptions. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-offers-online-public-service-training>.

==> + NOTES FROM THE ARRL VEC DESK

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) is one of 14 VECs in the US that coordinate the efforts of Volunteer Examiners (VEs) who administer Amateur Radio operator license examinations. More than

11,000 active ARRL VEs throughout the country give back to Amateur Radio by administering approximately 40,000 Technician, General and Amateur Extra exam elements each year. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/notes-from-the-arrl-vec-desk>.

==> NEW VOLUNTEER EXAMINER APPAREL AND SUPPLY ITEMS NOW AVAILABLE

If you're an ARRL Volunteer Examiner, take note: The ARRL has recently introduced new apparel and supply items <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Volunteer-Examiner-VE/> just for you. Choose between a new black polo-style shirt <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Volunteer-Examiner-Polo-Shirt/> (sizes S-4XL) or a white long-sleeved button down shirt <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Volunteer-Examiner-Oxford-Shirt/> (sizes S-3XL), each embroidered with the ARRL diamond logo and "Volunteer Examiner" on left chest. Wear your VE badge on the new ARRL VE lanyard <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Volunteer-Examiner-ID-Badge-Lanyard/>. This stylish white lanyard is imprinted with "ARRL Volunteer Examiner" and "Amateur Radio" in black. It includes a bulldog clip for your call sign badges or your ARRL VEC credentials. Carry your VE exam supplies in style with the ARRL VE Portfolio <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Volunteer-Examiner-Zippered-Portfolio/>. This black portfolio features a zipper closure and is imprinted with the ARRL diamond logo and words "ARRL VEC Exams." There's lots more available in the ARRL VEC Online Store <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Volunteer-Examiner-VE/>, including the ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiner Manual <http://www.arrl.org/shop/ARRL-VEC-Volunteer-Examiner-VE-Manual/>, ARRL VE patches <http://www.arrl.org/shop/Volunteer-Examiner-VE/>, challenge coins <http://www.arrl.org/shop/VEC-Challenge-Coin/> and pins <http://www.arrl.org/shop/VEC-Pin/>.

==> + INTERNATIONAL NEWS: ARRL ATTENDS HAM RADIO 2012 IN GERMANY

HAM RADIO 2012 in Friedrichshafen, Germany -- held June 22-24 -- is billed as Europe's biggest Amateur Radio exhibition. Held annually in the Lake Constance region, this is the 37th international Amateur Radio exhibition and the 63nd Lake Constance Convention of Radio Amateurs, sponsored by the German Amateur Radio Club (DARC), which gave rise to the fair. Each year, a contingent from ARRL attends HAM RADIO. In 2012, this group included ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, along with ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, and ARRL Field Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-attends-ham-radio-2012-in-germany>.

==> ON THE AIR: ARRL UHF/MICROWAVE BAND PLAN COMMITTEE SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 23 CM BAND PLAN

Last winter, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee asked the Amateur Radio community about current, planned and projected uses of the amateur bands between 902 MHz and 3.5 GHz. The excellent level of

response provided us with the basis to complete drafts of the 9 cm, 13 cm and 33 cm revised band plans for ARRL Board approval. The Committee has now prepared for your consideration a draft band plan for 23 cm (1240-1300 MHz), the final band on its assigned list. Please look over the accompanying draft and let us know if you have any major concerns. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-uhf-microwave-band-plan-committee-seeks-comments-on-proposed-23-cm-band-plan>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "The Sun came up this morning like a burning red balloon <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHJccFvSPgQ>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Sunspot activity continued to drop until early this week: The average daily sunspot numbers were 26.3, down more than 58 points from last week's numbers, while the average daily solar flux declined to 92.8, down over 33 points from last week's average. The weekly sunspot number average has declined since the May 31-June 6 period, when it was 130.4, followed by 116.1 the next week, 84.6 the next and 26.3 this week. In last week's ARRL Letter <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2012-06-21#toc09>, we reported the average daily sunspot number as 87, but it was really 84.6. This is because we reported what may have been a preliminary sunspot number of 46 for June 20, but the sunspot number for that date was 29. Geomagnetic conditions over the past week were quiet. The average planetary A index was 5.7, down from 12.6 last week, 9 the week before and 13.4 the week before that. The quiet planetary A index for this week was exactly as it was on the week of May 24-30 -- 5.7 -- which also happened to be the mid-latitude A index for that period. The latest prediction from USAF/NOAA shows geomagnetic activity peaking on June 29-July 4, probably from a coronal hole spewing solar wind. The predicted planetary A index for June 28-30 is 7, 10 and 18, followed by 15 on July 1-3, 10 and 8 on July 4-5, 5 on July 6-7, 8 on July 8-9, 5 on July 10-25, and then 10, 18, 15, 15, 15 and 8 on July 26-31. This is an echo of the activity this week, based on the 27.5 day rotation of our Sun, relative to Earth. The predicted solar flux is 110, 115 and 115 on June 28-30, 120 and 125 on July 1-2, 130 on July 3-5, 135 and 140 on July 6-7, 135 on July 8-9, 130 on July 10-11, 125 on July 12-13, then 120, 115, 110 and 105 on July 14-17. Solar flux may dip below 100 around July 19-28. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, June 29. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Eurythmics' You Hurt Me <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurythmics>.

==> + DXCC DESK APPROVES SEVEN OPERATIONS FOR CREDIT

In June, the DXCC approved seven operations for DXCC credit. On June 21, the 2012 TT8ES (Chad) operation, the XX9E (Macao) operation and the 2011 TL9EL (Central African Republic) were approved. On June 25, the

2012 XW4XR (Laos) operation was approved. On June 26, the 2010 J28RO (Djibouti) operation, the 2011 J25DXA (Djibouti) operation and the 2012 5X1RO (Uganda) operation have been approved. "If you had cards that were recently rejected for these operations, please send an e-mail <dxcc@arrl.org> to the ARRL DXCC Desk," Moore said. "Please note that due to extremely heavy e-mail, DXCC staff may not respond to your message. Once your record is updated, results will appear in Logbook of The World (LoTW <https://p1k.arrl.org/lotwuser/default>) accounts or in the live, daily DXCC Standings <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc/>. Due to a backup on DXCC e-mail, DXCC staff will make the corrections to accounts, but may not respond directly to messages about this." Moore noted that the J28RO and 5X1RO logs have been uploaded to LoTW.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- July 1 -- RAC Canada Day Contest; WAB 144 MHz Low Power Contest (Phone)
- July 2-8 -- 10-10 International Spirit of '76 QSO Party
- July 3 -- ARS Spartan Sprint
- July 4-5 -- Michigan QRP July 4th CW Sprint

Next week:

- July 6 -- NCCC Sprint
- July 7-8 -- Venezuelan Independence Day Contest; DL-DX RTTY Contest; Original QRP Contest; PODXS 070 Club 40 Meter Firecracker Sprint (local time)
- July 8 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest; QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint
- July 9 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- July 11-12 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- June 30 -- ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/eastern-pennsylvania-section-convention-electronics-expo-firecracker-hamfest>,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/ncj>. Published bi-monthly, features articles by
top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical

articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#%21/edit-info-email_subscriptions> to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org>. Follow us on Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store> to enhance your enjoyment of Amateur Radio

Donate <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form> to the fund of your choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

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155. Re: What did you do on Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-28 20:26:37 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <g6fpu7dks24rik2demrq8a2ld30rvhukm5@4ax.com>
Source record: 274

On Wed, 27 Jun 2012 01:06:44 EDT, <someone@somewhere.com> wrote:

>Our FD's are laid-back affairs. We are there to have fun, chat and
>joke with each other, and occassionally operate a radio. When the
>hamburgers and franks were finished cooking, all operating ceased as
>we ate dinner. I don't know what our final score is, and really I
>don't care. I was there just to have fun with my friends.
>
>
>What did you do on Field Day?

Just about the same on the "ranch" of our Esteemed Leader of the
Skyline Tower A.R.C., the ham radio incarnation of the Portland (OR)
chapter of the Society of Broadcast Engineers. One of our cohorts is
a prime BBQ chef so we dined in style - no burgers and franks for us!
---

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

156. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1820 - June 29 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-06-29 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120629090004.32ED933C57@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 275
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1820 - June 29 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1820 with a release date of June 29, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham radio continues its aid in response to wildfires in Colorado; hams in Sri Lanka say they want to be included in ham radio emergency communications; big changes coming to 70 centimeters down under; a day change for Ham Nation and a new method of data transfer could reach 2 point 5 terabytes per second. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1820 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: COLORADO AND NEW MEXICO FIRE UPDATE

We begin this week with an update on ham radio assisting those fighting the wildfires burning in Colorado and New Mexico. Don Carlson, KQ6FM, has what's known so far:

--

According to a report in the Denver Post, ham radio operators have become an integral part of the fire fighting effort. A story talks about the contributions of Amateur Radio Emergency Service operators. It describes in detail the work of Randy Long, K7AVV, who the paper says is a ham radio operator asked by firefighters to find more volunteers to aid communication in the High Park fire zone.

Since then Long has been managing a team of ham radio operators staffing eight hour shifts around the clock. They are described as setting up portable repeaters and relaying messages between the fire lines and command posts. About 40 operators have so far volunteered. Long is an Amateur Radio Emergency Service coordinator for Larimer and Weld counties who was forced to evacuate from his home southeast of Buckhorn Mountain.

Also involved in the Colorado fire communications effort is Colorado Section Emergency Coordinator Robert Wareham, N0ESQ, Long, Wareham and the other ARES volunteers were reported to be at the National Guard Armory in Fort Collins. They became an integral part of the communications effort as the High Park fire encircled Buckhorn and Horsetooth mountains. That's where critical hubs of Larimer County

public safety communications towers stand.

The Post story notes that as a part of their hobby amateur radio operators have set up about 50 mountaintop repeaters around northern Colorado. If the public service communication systems were damaged or forced off line, the hams could provide alternate communications through one of their repeaters or set up a portable repeater to fill in any gap.

Agencies being served by ARES volunteers include the Larimer County Sheriff, American Red Cross, US Forest Service, Colorado State Patrol, and the High Park Fire Incident Management team of the Poudre Park Fire Department.

Yet another massive wildfire broke out near the city of Colorado Springs on Saturday, June 23rd. Called the Waldo Canyon Fire this blaze suddenly grew to a level of fierce on Tuesday, June 26th. So far it has forced 32,000 people from their homes and has prompted evacuations from the near-by United States Air Force Academy. The fire is reported to literally be swallowing numerous houses at the edge of Colorado Springs. As we go to air there is no word of any direct involvement by ARES or RACES teams but its likely that some amateur radio communications lines are already on-scene.

Meanwhile in New Mexico, ham radio operations have stood down following the Little Bear Fire in and around the city of Riudoso. Michael Scales, K5SCA, is the New Mexico Section Emergency Coordinator. In a note released on June 17th and relayed to Newsline by Jay Miller, W5WHN, all personnel have been released at this point. However they should be aware that the new threat is flash flooding. With that in mind they should remain somewhat vigilant and have their "go kits" ready for deployment.

The Little Bear Fire destroyed 224 homes and had burned 59 square miles before it was 60 percent contained. As reported here two weeks ago, several New Mexico ARES units responded to that blaze.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

More on this situation as information is made available to us. (W5WHN, Denver Post, others)

**

RESCUE RADIO: SRI LANKA HAMS OFFER TO ASSIST IN EMCOMM WORK

Sri Lanka's amateur radio operators have renewed their call to be included in communication work during national disasters. This after the nation's defense authorities have relaxed rules on clearing ham radio equipment into that nation.

The report in Lanka Business quotes Radio Society of Sri Lanka official, Victor Goonetilleke, 4S7VK, as saying that Sri Lankan hams would like to join-up with the National Disaster Management Centre in some way. This, to help them with emergency communication work.

4S7VK spoke during a recent public lecture on Disaster Risk Reduction, organized by LIRNEasia, which is a regional think-tank. At the gathering it was noted that with some 200 members the Radio Society of Sri Lanka is not new to disaster communications in the island. It was noted that the society played a crucial role during the 2004 Asian tsunami that claimed over 30,000 lives and displacing about one million people. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/srilanka-emcomm and in this case srilanka is spelled as one word. (Radio Society of Sri Lanka)

**

RESTRUCTURING: PROPOSED REFARMING OF 70CM IN AUSTRALIA

Big changes are coming to the amateur 70 centimeter band down under. We have more in this report:

--

The Australian Communications and Media Authority's Spectrum Conference this year saw the ongoing work associated on the review of 400 MHz spectrum. This is a band of frequencies that also includes the 70 centimeter ham radio allocation.

Currently, the Australian amateur service has a secondary status between 420 and 450 MHz. In the last report from the Australian Communications and Media Authority on its review issued April 2010, it advised that the allocation for the amateur service between 430 and 450 MHz would not be affected from any rearrangement. However, they cited, a possible need for some temporary use by other services in the segment 440 to 450 MHz during the transition period.

In the Amateur secondary segment 420 to 430 MHz, in some geographic areas around Australia, amateur use of that spectrum has already been withdrawn. At the conference, the Australian Communications and Media Authority indicated that they will be seeking to consult with the Wireless Institute of Australia on withdrawal of the amateur service in this segment across the rest of that nation.

Currently, the major use of this band segment by amateurs is fixed links and the like. The Australian Communications and Media Authority database lists around 126 assignments to some 35 licensees. It is expected these can be relocated to the 430 to 450 MHz portion of the band.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

You can follow this story on-line on the Wireless Institute of Australia news-pages at www.wia.org.au (WIA News)

**

RESTRUCTURING: NEW LOW FREQUENCY ALLOCATION IN MALTA

Hams in Malta now have access to a new low frequency band. The as the Malta Communications Authority grants amateurs access to 472 to 479 kHz. The country's National Frequency Plan identifies this as a secondary allocation, with a maximum power of 1 watt Effective Radiated Power. (GB2RS)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the N5YYU repeater serving Clinton, Arkansas.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC ISSUES A $15000 NAL TO ANOTHER FLORIDA UNLICENSED BROADCASTER

The FCC has issued a $15,000 Notice of Apparent Liability also known as a proposed fine to Pierre Nixon Jean. This, for operating an unauthorized station on 92.5 MHz in West Palm Beach, Florida. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

--

This past February, FCC agents from the Miami office traced the source of unauthorized signal on 92.5 MHz to an antenna mounted on the roof of an apartment building in West Palm Beach. Agents heard the station identify itself on the air as "Exitfm.com."

Doing a bit of on-line sleuthing, the agents found an Internet site for the station that showed a photo of Pierre Nixon Jean as a D-J and identified him as the station owner. The agents also learned from the building owner that Jean rented an apartment in the building from sometime in 2010 through March of this year. He also identified Jean from a photograph as being the renter.

The building owner told the agents he had seen what he believed what might have been transmitting equipment inside the unit and told Jean to remove the gear after speaking to the FCC. The Enforcement Bureau confirmed the antenna was removed in May.

Now, in its penalty decision, the FCC says that Jean had no license for the station and was operating the facility illegally. The FCC also noted that Jean had been found to have been transmitting unlawfully on the same frequency from another location in 2010. It said that such

continued illegal operation demonstrates a deliberate disregard for the commission's rules. Because of this the agency increased the level of the fine from the $10,000 base figure to $15,000.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale Arizona.

--

As is usual in these cases, Pierre Nixon Jean has 30 days to pay the fine or file an appeal. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC AFFIRMS $22000 FINE AGAINST TENNESSEE UNLICENSED BROADCASTER

The FCC has affirmed a $22,000 monetary forfeiture previously issued to Arthur Lee Young Cosby, Tennessee. This for his alleged operation of an unlicensed radio station on 87.9 MHz and refusal to allow an inspection of his radio station.

This past March 27th the FCC Enforcement Bureau's Atlanta Office (issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Young for the alleged violations. According to the regulatory agency, Young has not filed a response to the NAL. So, based on the information before it, the FCC affirmed the fine on June 8th. Young was given the customary 30 days from issuance of the fine to pay it or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAM NATION CHANGING NIGHTS TO WEDNESDAY ON TWIT.TV

Beginning on July 11th, the TWIT.tv program Ham Nation will be moving to Wednesday evenings. This as network owner Leo Laporte, W6TWT, announces a new programming schedule. Bob Heil, K9EID, who hosts Ham Nation says that the move is really good news for his program due to the strong lead in shows that Leo Laporte has chosen to precede it:

--

K9EID: "They're going to change the day of Ham Nation and we are going to move it to Wednesday. The reason is that he is going to put up a like-up of some of his top shows on Wednesday.

"It starts off with the Security Now with Steve Gibson which is an incredible show, by the way. (It covers) all kinds of security (including) your home, your computer. Whatever needs security, Steve is the master.

"And then, they are going to have the TWIG show - This Week in Google, Android and all that.

"Then, the big show Triangulation. That show will precede Ham Nation.

"So you're going to have four of their top shows on Wednesday."

--

The day change does not affect the shows hour of air-time schedule. The netcast will still take place live at 9 P.M. Eastern, 6 P.M. Pacific with video and audio podcasts available for download at twit.tv/hn about 24 hours later.

Again the new day for the TWIT.TV amateur radio program Ham Nation will be on Wednesday starting on July 11th. K9EID and the gang hope you will join them there. (Ham Nation)

**

HAM BUSINESS: ETHERKIT RELEASES QRSS BEACON KIT

Etherkit which is a new amateur radio kit company devoted to open source hardware, has released its first product. Called OpenBeacon, it is described as an open source crystal-controlled QRP beacon transmitter kit which can output a variety of slow-speed modes. These include QRSS, DFCW, and Sequential Multi-tone Hellschreiber. More information is on-line at www.etherkit.com (Southgate)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: CK6S FOR CALGARY STAMPEDED JULY 5 TO 15

The Calgary Amateur Radio Association will be operating special event station CK6S from July 5 to 15th. This to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Calgary Stampede.

The Calgary Stampede is an annual rodeo, exhibition and festival held every July in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The event's roots are traced to 1886 when the Calgary and District Agricultural Society held its first fair.

In 1912, American promoter Guy Weadick organized his first rodeo and festival, known as the Stampede. He returned to Calgary in 1919 to organize the Victory Stampede in honor of soldiers returning from World War I. Weadick's festival became an annual event in 1923 when it merged with the Calgary Industrial Exhibition to create the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede.

The ham radio special event station CK6S plans to use frequencies in the general portion of the United States phone bands. These will be around 3.825, 7.180, 14.250, 21.320 and 28.475 MHz. A special QSL card will be available through the QSL bureau or direct by following the CK6S/VE6AO QSL instructions on QRZ.com. (VE6TC, Wikipedia)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: W1A CELEBRATES TELSTAR AT 50

A celebration of the world's first telecommunications satellite will take place on July 7th. This when the Radio Adventurers of Maine

activate the callsign W1A to commemorate the first messages through the Telstar bird. They will be operating on site at the Andover, Maine satellite facility, the original earth station which broadcast the first messages via Telstar was uplinked on July 10th, 1962. The clubs commemorative operation will begin at 1300 UTC on both 40 and 20 meter phone. Other bands will be added as propagation allows. QSL as directed on the air. (Radio Adventurers of Maine)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: JAMIE GAVIN, KF7WIS NAMED QRZ.COM GENERAL MANAGER

Some names in the news. First up is Jaime Gavin, KF7WIS, who has been named as the first General Manager of the QRZ.com ham radio website. According to site owner Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, Gavin will be overseeing all aspects of QRZ's daily business and interaction with the public.

Jaime Gavin holds a Master's degree from Arizona State University and Lloyd describes her as being extremely enthusiastic and capable. She will be handling the business aspects of QRZ LLC, and will oversee its day-to-day activities including advertising sales, database administration, and user and customer support.

According to AA7BQ, with the addition of KF7WIS, his role at QRZ now transitions to the one that he loves the most. That being the sites systems designer, programmer, and ambassador for QRZ.com. (QRZ)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: FORMER FCC COMMISSIONER RICHARD WILEY HONORED

The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law has honored communications law expert Richard Wiley for a lifetime of achievement, including a career at the Federal Communications Commission that spanned three presidential terms.

Wiley is the only person to act as general counsel, commissioner and chairman of the FCC. He started under President Richard Nixon, served under President Gerald Ford and then resigned after helping transition into the administration of President Jimmy Carter for a year. His pivotal role in the development of HDTV earned him the nickname, the "Godfather of Digital Television," and earned him an Emmy from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Richard Wiley, who is now age 77, is only the third person to receive the Milestone Award from the university's Institute for Communications Law Studies. (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: KJ4UFG SAYS HE NEEDS FIELD DAY COVER PHOTO FOR SERA JOURNAL

John Ghormley, KJ4UFG, who is the editor of the South East Repeater Association publication known as the SERA Repeater Journal is looking for a cover photo that depicts an ARRL Field Day activity.

Specifically, KJ4UFG requires a high resolution photograph taken at a Field Day site in Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. These are the states serviced by the organization.

A suitable cover photo should be in vertical portrait orientation. The file size should be such that it can be turned into a super sharp image of at least 300 dots per inch or greater when rendered at 8.5"x11" page size. If there are people prominently depicted in the photo, he will need full names, and call signs for the hams in the photo.

If you have a photo you want to submit, email it as an attachment, to editor (at) sera (dot) org. (KJ4UFG)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: FORMER ARRL GENERAL MANAGER AND IARU PRESIDENT RICHARD, BALDWIN, W1RU - SK

It's yet another changing of the guard in amateur radio. This as we learn the sad news of the passing of former ARRL General Manager Richard Baldwin, W1RU, of Damariscotta, Maine,

An ARRL Charter Life Member, Richard Baldwin capped a long career on the ARRL staff with service as General Manager from 1975 until his retirement in 1982. He served as Secretary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) from 1976 to 1982. After retirement, he continued his involvement as a volunteer, serving as IARU President from 1982 to 1999 and as ARRL International Affairs Vice President from 1982 to 1986.

According to his daughter Judy, Baldwin's life revolved around telecommunications. He first became licensed in 1934 as W1IKE. An Amateur Extra class licensee, he earned DXCC, WAS and WAC, as well as membership in the ARRL's A-1 Operator Club.

Baldwin began his career at ARRL Headquarters in 1948 as an Assistant Secretary. After a brief hiatus to work in the private sector in the early 1950s, he returned in 1956 as Managing Editor of QST. In that position he was responsible for production of the monthly member

journal and all ARRL publications.

In 1963, Baldwin became Assistant General Manager and almost immediately got involved with international matters. He organized the Intruder Watch program and served as the ARRL Liaison between the amateurs who monitored the bands and the FCC. In 1975 he was named by the ARRL Board to succeed John Huntoon, W1RW, as General Manager on Huntoon's retirement, That's the position now titled Chief Executive Officer. In total, Baldwin wrote 234 articles and columns for QST.

A graduate of Bates College in Maine, Baldwin earned an MS in Physics from Boston University in 1948. He spent five years in the US Navy during World War II. In March 1943, while serving as Communications Officer aboard the USS Coghlan, he participated in the longest American naval daylight firefight of the war. That being the Battle of the Komandorski Islands. After the war he served in the US Naval Reserve, achieving the rank of Commander.

Richard Baldwin, W1RU, was age 92 when passed away on Thursday, June 21, after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. He is survived by his wife Phyllis, daughter Judy and son Glenn. A memorial service was planned for Friday, June 29 at Second Congregational Church in Newcastle, Maine. (ARRL)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEW DATA TRANSFER METHOD PROMISES UP TO 2.5 TB PER SECOND

American and Israeli scientists have developed a new technology of wirelessly transmitting data using twisted beams of light that could produce a theoretical throughput of 2.5 terabits per second. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the story of the science making this possible:

--
The new method of high speed data transfer reportedly uses orbital angular momentum or O-A-M to increase the amount of information that can be carried by a single stream. To accomplish this feat, the researchers twisted together eight 300 Gigabytes per second visible light data streams using O-A-M technology over a space of one meter to achieve speeds of 2.5 terabits per second. The development comes just one month after it was finally proved that orbital angular momentum is actually possible.

Using this new orbital angular momentum technology an infinite number of conventional transmission protocols such as WiFi and LTE, can be twisted together for faster speeds without the need for more spectrum. For perspective, that's more than 8,000 times faster than the fastest home Internet connection at 300 Megabytes per second.

The development team says that it will be working increasing the transmission distance which currently at only 1 meter. The theoretical

distance limit for this new method is likely to be less than one kilometer. At least in the foreseeable future.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heater Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, in Berwick, Pennsylvania

--

You can read more on-line at tinyurl.com/super-speed-data. (slashgear.com, N6ZXJ)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SCOTLAND MOBILE ON THE BIRDS

2E1EUB is currently mobile on the various amateur radio satellites from Scotland. He began his operation on June 24th and can be heard stroke P through July 6th or 7th. Grid squares he will be activating include IO-76 IO-77 IO-87 and others if he has the time. QSL to 2M1EUB via his address on QRZ.com. (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT: CANADIAN HAMS NEEDED FOR COMMUNICATIONS FOR CYCLING EVENT

This note to our friends up north. Radio Amateurs of Canada says that volunteers are needed to provide communications in support of that nations Coast to Coast Against Cancer Foundation cycling event. The ride takes place August 3d to the 5th along Nova Scotia's Cabot Trail. The route involves at least 100 riders and more than 50 volunteers.

If you are able to help, please drop a note to Doug Mercer, V-Oh-1-T-D-M at dougvo1dtm (at) gmail (dot) com. You can also get in touch with Radio Amateurs of Canada's Atlantic Director Ev Price at vo1dk (at) rac (dot) ca or Deputy Director Len Morgan ve9my (at) rac (dot) ca. Any assistance will be sincerely appreciated. (RAC)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING THE TOUR DE FRANCE CYCLING RACE 2012

Meantime, keep an ear open for special event station GB4TDF. G1JYB, G1LAT and the Sands Contest Group are hosting the operation from Oysterber Farm in the UK to coincide with for the 2012 Tour our de France bicycle race.

The special event station began operation on June 26th and will terminate on July 23rd. Operations will be on HF, VHF and UHF as time and band conditions permit. A special commemorative QSL card will be available. More is on QRZ.com under GB4TDF.

The actual Tour de France cycling event starts on the June 30th June and ends on July 22nd. (E-Mail)

**

DX

In DX, Bill Moore, NC1L, the ARRL Awards Branch Manager, tells Newsline that the 2011 TL8ES Central African Republic and the 2012 TT8ES expedition to Chad have both been approved for DXCC credit. Also approved has been the 2012 XW4XR operation from Laos. Card submissions for all of these operations are now welcome.

DL4ME will be active as 5H3ME from Tanzania between August 14th and September 3rd. His operation will be holiday style on the H-F bands from 80 through 6 meters using CW and the Digital modes. QSL via his home callsign.

AJ9C will be active as YN2CC from Granada, Nicaragua, between November 20th and the 28th. Operations will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL electronically via Logbook of the World or direct to his home callsign.

LA0HF will be on the air as TY2BP from Benin for a minimum of 30 days and could be there for as long as 45. Activity will be on 20/15/10 meters. QSL via IK2IQD.

Lastly, VE2XB will be operational stroke FP from St. Pierre and Miquelon Islands from August 10th to the 20th. His activity will have a special focus on 6 meters, but he will also be active on all bands from 80 through 10 meters as well. QSL via VE2XB.

(Above from various DX news sources)
**

THAT FINAL ITEM: DEEP SPACE SUPER COMPUTER TO BE BUILT DOWN UNDER

And finally this week, a new super high speed data processing facility to look at signals received from deep space is slated to be built down-under. WIA newsman Graham Kemp, VK4BB, has the details:

--

One of the world's most powerful supercomputers is planned for Perth to process vast amounts of data being collected by radio telescopes in Western Australia's Murchison region.

WA Today said the supercomputer is to be housed in the Pawsey Centre being built in the southern Perth suburb of Kensington, near Curtin University.

The machines will initially process data from existing radio telescopes based at the Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory but is free to expand for use in the international Square Kilometre Array project.

It was decided in May that Australia would share the $2 billion Square Kilometre Array project with South Africa.

3000 dishes and a discovery potential 10,000 times greater than the best contemporary instruments, the SKA will observe such things as what happened after the big bang and how galaxies evolved, and will attempt

to uncover more about the "dark matter" that fills the majority of the universe.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline I'm Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News in Australia.

--

More on this project is on-line at tinyurl.com/vk-super-computer. (VK1WIA)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editor's desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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157. FCC Daily Digest 07/02/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-02 16:00:42 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522337-2012.07.02-11.19.49--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 276
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 127 July 02, 2
012

[...]

BRIAN R. RAGAN. Notified Brian R. Ragan of this Apparent Liability for F
orfeiture in the amount of $17,000 for operating an unlicensed radio transm
itter and failure to allow an inspection of the station by FCC personnel. b
y NALF. Action by: Senior Agent, San Francisco Office, Western Region, Enf
orcement Bureau. Adopted: 07/02/2012 by ORDER. (DA No. 12-1038). EB http
://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1038A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1038A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1038A1.txt

[...]

158. Re: What did you do on Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-04 20:13:23 UTC
From: Channel Jumper <Channel.Jumper.a3a2f18a@radiobanter.com>
Message-ID: <Channel.Jumper.a3a2f18a@radiobanter.com>
Source record: 277

No Name;792525 Wrote:
> What did you do on Field Day?
>
> My club, the Pahrump (NV) Amateur Radio Repeater Association (PARRA),
> held its Field Day (FD) at the QTH of one of our members.
>
> Pahrump is in the desert of southern Nevada about 60 miles west of Las
> Vegas. The normal summer day-time temperature is 105 degrees F. The
> last couple of years we set up in the desert outside of town. But
> this year we decided that we were getting too old to stay out in all
> that sun all day. So this year we operated as a class D station at
> the member's QTH. His home station already had a tower with a
> multi-band beam, plus a couple more towers between which we strung
> wire antennas.
>
> Our sole consession to FD conditions was to operate from the covered
> patio behind the house instead of in his air-conditioned shack. One
> member brought an evaporative cooler to cool the patio a bit.
>
> Our host brought his HF rig from his indoor shack to the patio.
> Another member brought his HF rig from his QTH. One rig was run
> exclusively on SSB, while the other was used for both SSB abd CW,
> We operated as class 2D.
>
> About ten club members showed up during the event. We also had about
> 5 visitors who learned about the event from notices in our two local
> newspapers and two local TV stations. The TV stations also aired
> interviews with our host and me describing the event and inviting
> visitors. Pahrump is a small town, about 35,000 population. The
> local media really helps to publicize all kinds of local events. I
> cannot imagine that we would get that kind of publicity in a large
> city such as nearby Las Vegas.
>
> Our FD's are laid-back affairs. We are there to have fun, chat and
> joke with each other, and occassionally operate a radio. When the
> hamburgers and franks were finished cooking, all operating ceased as
> we ate dinner. I don't know what our final score is, and really I
> don't care. I was there just to have fun with my friends.
>
>
> What did you do on Field Day?
>
>
> Dick Grady, AC7EL

> To respond to me privately, email to:
> My Call at My Call dot org

Sounds like you had a really nice Field Days

I came to the conclusiion, after operating at my second year of Field Days that the purpose of Field Days is not to contest.

The purpose of Field Days is to expose the public to Amateur Radio.

The purpose of Field Days is also to teach new hams how to operate in field conditions and how to log and dupe.

The purpose of Field Days is also to put non hams on the air - hence make new hams out of regular old people.

And the purpose of Field Days is to bring people together, especially clubs, where people learns, that if we work together, we can accomplish something, and if we all go our own seperate ways and do not help each other, we are not effective communicators.

Most clubs uses Field Days as a excuse to have a party or their club picnic.

Those activities needs to be held at other times.

We end up attracting club members, who by nature of having a license and call sign, but doesn't operate, doesn't even own a HF radio or antenna's - just got a license to be a part of a gang. Only comes to eat and to hang out. It makes it hard to operate when you have people standing around that only wants to talk to each other and doesn't want to help or operate.

Field Days is unique - it gives points to people who operates a information booth, for people who puts on extra curricular activities such as a fox hunt or a antenna building class. It gives points for having a information officer and advertising in the local newspaper and for getting the media to attend the event and for getting public officials to attend and for getting local law enforcement to attend.

--
Channel Jumper

159. The ARRL Letter for July 5, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-05 20:43:20 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120705185936.9C18C25D87@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 278
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

July 5, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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Wildfires
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- Amateur Radio in Space: Trio from ISS Lands Safely in Kazakhstan
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- ARRL Recognizes: Dennis Johnson, KF0QR, Wins June QST Cover Plaque
Award
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

Due to the Fourth of July holiday, there will be no ARRL Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news> today.

==> PUBLIC SERVICE: COLORADO HAMS PROVIDE DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS
DURING WILDFIRES

Thanks to an extremely dry season, portions of Colorado have been
ravaged by wildfires. As of July 5, only a handful of the fires are
considered extinguished or fully contained, with the majority
considered still active. According to InciWeb, almost 170,000 acres are
affected by 11 active fires. Since June 9 -- when the High Park Fire,
the first of the wildfires began -- hams in Colorado have been
assisting with disaster communications, providing communications
support to the State and served agencies. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/colorado-hams-provide-disaster-communications-durin
g-wildfires>.

==> ON THE AIR: LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD NOW SUPPORTS CQ'S WPX AWARD
```

The wait is over! After weeks of beta testing, the ARRL launched the integration of Logbook of The World (LoTW) -- its electronic confirmation system -- with CQ Magazine's Worked All Prefixes (WPX) Award on Monday, July 2. The WPX Award is the first of the CQ-sponsored awards that LoTW will support. More than 51,000 radio amateurs worldwide use Logbook of The World, and there are currently almost 432 million QSOs in the LoTW system. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-launches-logbook-of-the-world-wpx-award-integration>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: TRIO FROM ISS LANDS SAFELY IN KAZAKHSTAN

Three members of the Expedition 31 crew undocked from the International Space Station and returned safely to Earth Sunday, July 1, wrapping up a mission that lasted almost seven months. Russian Commander Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, along with NASA Flight Engineer Don Pettit, KD5MDT, and European Space Agency Flight Engineer Andre Kuipers, PI9ISS, landed their Soyuz TMA-03M spacecraft in Kazakhstan at 0514 UTC. The trio -- who arrived at the station December 23, 2011 -- spent a total of 193 days in space, 191 of which were aboard the ISS. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/trio-from-iss-lands-safely-in-kazakhstan>.

==> ON THE AIR: THE IARU HF CHAMPIONSHIP HEATS UP THE SUMMER

Radiosport fans are gearing up for the summer's biggest HF competition: the IARU HF World Championship <http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>. This 24 hour long contest is the highlight of the summer HF contesting season, with plenty of opportunity to work DX from all around the globe on CW and SSB. Participants also get the chance to make QSOs with many IARU Member Society club stations and officials.

"The IARU HF Championship is one of radio sport's unique events," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. "It's the only major contest that uses International Telecommunication Union (ITU <http://www.itu.int/>) zones <http://iaru.org/ituzonesc.gif> as part of the exchange, and the only contest that gives special multiplier status for IARU Member-Society stations and their officials."

Hams can get in on the fun in a variety of ways. You may choose to enter as either a single operator, using either SSB only, CW only or a mixture of both modes. Single operator stations can choose from three power levels: High Power (greater than 150 W), Low Power (between 5 and 150 W) or QRP (5 W or less). You can also get some friends together at one station and participate as a Multioperator station with a single transceiver.

One of the fun things to do is see how many of the IARU special stations you can work during the event. "While most stations give their ITU zone as part of the contest exchange, IARU Member-Society stations give the abbreviation for their IARU society name, such as "ARRL" for W1AW," Kutzko explained. "In addition, IARU officials can give one of

four unique exchanges: AC if they are on the IARU Administrative Council, or R1, R2 or R3 for the ITU Region that official serves. It is always special to see so many nations represented on the air by their national organization. It reinforces the global nature of Amateur Radio and the common bonds we all have as amateurs."

The IARU HF World Championship <http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship> begins at 1200 UTC Saturday, July 14 and goes until 1200 UTC Sunday, July 15. Complete rules may be found online <http://www.arrl.org/contests>. Logs may be submitted via e-mail <iaruhf@iaru.org>; paper logs should be mailed to IARU International Secretariat, Box 310905, Newington, CT 06111-0905 USA. All logs must be e-mailed or postmarked no later than 1200 UTC August 14, 2012.

==> FCC NEWS: CALIFORNIA HAM CITED $17,000 FOR OPERATING UNLICENSED RADIO STATION

On July 2, the FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture and Order in the amount of $17,000, accusing Brian R. Ragan, KF6EGI, of Suisun City, California, of "apparently willfully and repeatedly violating" the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on frequency 104.9 MHz and failing to allow an inspection of his station by FCC personnel. The Commission said that Ragan, "as a licensed Amateur Radio operator for at least six years, [he] should be aware that any radio equipment at his station must be made available for inspection at any time when requested by the FCC, and also should be aware of the proper operation of his amateur station in accordance with the Rules." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/california-ham-cited-for-operating-unlicensed-radio-station>.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of June -- takes a look at the new 9 cm band plan and a proposed 23 cm band plan, education and resource grants to schools, nominations for Director and Vice Director in five ARRL Divisions, W1AW's spring antenna inspections, the ARRL VEC preparations for the new Amateur Extra class exam, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-47>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "A firework, a dancing flame <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uuwfgXD8qV8>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity jumped way up this week, with average daily sunspot numbers increasing by nearly 92 points to 118.1, while the average daily solar flux rose to 138.5 from 92.8 the week before. One new sunspot group appeared on June 29, another on July 1 and two more on

July 4. Geomagnetic activity this week was concentrated on June 30-July 2, and the causes were the usual suspects: solar flares and solar wind spewing from coronal holes. One unusual aspect was that the mid-latitude A index, measured in Virginia, was actually higher on July 3-4 than the planetary A index, which is usually higher than mid-latitude numbers. The planetary A index is made up of an aggregate of data from multiple geomagnetic observatories. The outlook for the near term is for increasing activity over the next few days, with solar flux at 155 on July 5, 160 on July 6-7, 155 and 150 on July 8-9, 145 on July 10-11, then 140, 135, 130, 125 and 110 on July 12-16. Solar flux is expected to dip below 100 on July 19-22. The planetary A index is expected at 8 on July 5-8, 10 on July 9, 7 on July 10 and 5 on July 11-26, followed by another active period with planetary A index at 20 on July 27-28 and 15 on July 29-30. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, July 6. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Katy Perry's Part of Me <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Part_of_Me_%28Katy_Perry_song%29>.

==> ARRL RECOGNIZES: DENNIS JOHNSON, KF0QR, WINS JUNE QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the June QST Cover Plaque Award is Dennis Johnson, KF0QR, for his article "A 160 and 75/80 Meter Folded Dipole." Congratulations Dennis! The QST Cover Plaque Award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the July issue today.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- July 6 -- NCCC Sprint
- July 7-8 -- Venezuelan Independence Day Contest; DL-DX RTTY Contest; Original QRP Contest; PODXS 070 Club 40 Meter Firecracker Sprint (local time)
- July 8 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest; QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint
- July 9 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- July 11-12 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- July 14 -- FISTS Summer Sprint
- July 14-15 -- IARU HF World Championship
- July 15 -- CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush
- July 19 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update

<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters <http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

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to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store> to enhance your enjoyment of Amateur Radio

Donate <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form> to the fund of your choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

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160. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1821 - July 6 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-06 09:00:12 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120706090003.6B21C33C94@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 279
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1821 - July 6 2012

Please note that this is an extended Amateur Radio Newsline bulletin and contains three breaks. Newscast begins following the tone.

(Single beep here)

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1821 with a release date of July 6, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham radio responds as a severe weather outbreak hits the Mid-West and Mid-Atlantic U-S; a new D-X record is set using the ageing Amsat Oscar 7 satellite; a big tower victory in Nevada and Erin King, AK4JG is named the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1821 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RESCUE RADIO: HAM RADIO RESPONDS AS WINDSTORM HITS MID WEST AND MID ATLANTIC STATES

The governors of several states have declared emergencies as temperatures rose in the aftermath of powerful storms that swept through the mid-Atlantic region Friday night, July 29th. The storm did damage from Indiana to New Jersey, although the bulk of its destruction was felt in West Virginia, Washington and suburban Virginia and Maryland. Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, begins our coverage of this severe weather outbreak and whats known about the ham radio response thus far:

--

A "super derecho" of violent thunderstorms left a more than 700-mile trail of destruction across the Midwest and mid-Atlantic on Friday, cutting power to millions and killing thirteen people.

A derecho is defined as a widespread and long-lived wind storm that accompanies rapidly moving showers or thunderstorms. The most severe derechos are given the adjective "super."

Winds gusted to 91 mph, equal to that of a category 1 hurricane, at the Fort Wayne International Airport, Ind., on Friday afternoon. Winds gusts were recorded at 72 mph at the repeater site KT8APR, which is located at WLIO Television on Lima Ohio's west side.

According to WLIO's Chief Meteorologist, Kyle Adams, on Sunday, July 1st , "Thousands here in West Central Ohio are still w/o power. According to the AEP website over 600,000 people in Ohio have no power. They are comparing the magnitude of the event to the remnants of Hurricane Ike that came through in September of 2008. They are saying power that all power is expected to be restored in 5-7 days."

As the storm moved to the east-southeast lightning and high winds of more than 80 mile per hour, knocked down transmission structures, poles, power lines and trees across AEP Ohio's service territory. The central Ohio counties of Franklin, Delaware and Licking were the hardest hit, with approximately 345,000 customers affected.

Statistically, on Sunday, July 1st, 112,760 were without power in Indiana. 140,461 were without power in Kentucky. In Ohio and West Virginia the number climbed to more than 600,000. As the storm strengthened Virginia had over 2.5 million people out of power, and Maryland has more than 1.3 million out of power.

Hams performed multifaceted roles from local discussion between each other, some relaying storm information to the National Weather Service, and others using advanced ham technology to relay data on the storm, and reports of damage to authorities. Hams in counties where storms raged called repeaters to the east, warning them of what they would be experiencing, allowing them to mobilize before the storm hit.

President Obama declared an emergency exists in the State of Ohio Saturday and ordered federal aid to assist state and local efforts due to the emergency conditions from severe storms. Now a second serious situation is unfolded from Indiana to the mid-Atlantic where millions remain without power and temperatures are once again soaring. Temperatures in the south are expected to hit 110 degrees or more.

Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, in Lima Ohio

**

Meantime in Indiana:

**

Indiana's heat wave broke for a short time when strong storms raced across the north central part of the state causing wide spread damage. The train of severe storm cells brought hail and high winds that toppled trees and snapped power lines leaving thousands of Hoosiers in the dark and without power.

Fort Wayne, Indiana was one of the hardest hit areas. Strong winds up rooted large trees and cracked power poles isolating neighborhoods with downed power lines and tree branches. Allen County hams responded with emergency communications as Ft Wayne police and fire frequencies became jammed with news of wide spread damage. Many reported dozens of traffic lights without power throwing traffic into a city wide grid lock. Now one week after the storm officials report nearly ten

thousand people still without power as daytime temperatures hover in the 98 degree range. Power crews from as far away as Oklahoma have arrived to help with the electrical problems.

Dozens of Red Cross blood drives have been cancelled in the wake of the storms, resulting in a shortfall of more than 1,000 potential blood donations leading into the 4th of July holiday. The Allen County Red Cross opened shelters for those without power.

In Hamilton and Tipton counties, just Southwest of ft Wayne amateur radio operators quickly scrambled to deal with the pop up storms. There were reports of wide spread wind damage across the two counties. Skywarn operators in Hamilton county relayed one report about a tree that had fallen on a car in Tipton county. Other counties in central and eastern Indiana reported only Skywarn activity as the rapidly building storms raced eastward into the Buckeye state.

Reporting from Indianapolis, this is Jack Parker , W8ISH.
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More on this story as information becomes available. (W8HDU, W8ISH, ARNewsline(tm))

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HAM RADIO AND THE INTERNET: QRZ.COM GOES OFF LINE DUE TO AMAZON CLOUD FAILURE

The same storm that wrought havoc across the mid-West and Mid-Atlantic States also took its toll on the Internet including one very popular ham radio website. According to Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, who owns QRZ.com, the severe weather lead to an outage of what is known as Amazon's Elastic Compute Cloud center in North Virginia. The result was that services such as Netflix, Pinterest, Instagram, and other popular sites including QRZ became unavailable just after midnight Eastern time on Saturday June 30th.

According to a posting on QRZ by AA7BQ after service was restored, Amazon's service health dashboard indicated that there were power issues in its North Virginia data center. He said that the outage did not affect his servers but did cause a complete database failure. After waiting all night for Amazon to restore the QRZ.com data, he restored information from an automated backup.

According to Lloyd, the outage underscores the vulnerabilities of depending on the public cloud versus having your own data center. For those who have never heard the term Cloud computing, it is the delivery of computation and storage capacity as a service to a community of end recipients. As such, Cloud computing entrusts services with a user's data, software and computation over a network. The name comes from the use of a cloud-shaped symbol to signify the service. (QRZ.com, Wikipedia)
**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: A NEW RECORD FOR THE AGEING AO-7 SATELLITE

A new DX record has been achieved on the ageing OSCAR-7 ham radio satellite. This between Wyatt Dirks, AC0RA, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Bill Dzurilla, OM3BD, in the Slovak Republic.

Their GPS-measured 7849 kilometer QSO between grid squares EN31vx and JN88mf surpassed the prior 7843 kilometer record set by Luciano Fabricio, PY5LF, and Joe Spandler, K3SZH, by 6 kilometers back in 2010. Take a listen to what a record breaking weak signal satellite contact sounds like after a bit of digital audio magic on our part:

--

Contact audio: Please download this weeks MP3 newscast at www.arnewsline.org to hear part of the contact.

--

To make this record happen Wyatt had to wake up at 3 a.m., drive to a hill an hour away from his home, set up his station, and work OM3BD before sunrise at 09:55 UTC on July 2nd. To make the path, OM3BD was running a Yaesu FT847 with SP2000 preamp fed by a pair of 10 element yagis on 2 meters, and an 8 element yagi for 70 cm. On this side of the Atlantic AC0RA also used a Yaesu FT-847 transceiver with a 7 element yagi on 2 meters and a 12 element yagi on 70cm.

It appears that an even longer distance is attainable. Wyatt says that he is looking for a suitable place from which they can try before Bill leaves Slovakia in mid July. We'll keep you posted.

More is on-line at tinyurl.com/ao7-dx-record. (Southgate)

**

BREAK 1

Celebrating 35 years of uninterrupted service to the world-wide ham radio community, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WA4TEN repeater serving Bremerton, Washington.

(5 sec pause here)

**

YHOTY 2012: ERIN KING, AK4JG, NAMED AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE 2012 YOUNG HAM OF THE YEAR

Erin King, AK4JG, a 17-year-old from Columbus, Georgia, who re-founded her high school's radio club and then lofted a ham radio-carrying balloon to over 90,000 feet, recovered the flight data and used it to produce a truly striking video of that flight, has been named as recipient of the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award. Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, is here with the details:

--

Whoa, thank you. That's awesome! Ahhh...that's really cool! Thank you so much, I'm very excited!"

And that the reaction from Amateur Radio Newsline's Young Ham of the Year winner Erin King upon learning in a telephone call that she had been selected as this year's winner of the prestigious award.

Erin, who is the daughter of Paul, K4ETY, and Patricia King, of Columbus, has been a ham since only 2009 and holds an Extra Class license.

Erin says, ironically, she was in attendance at last year's Huntsville Hamfest where the Young Ham of the Year Award is presented, and never dreamed she'd be the one nominated and chosen to receive the next one...

"I went to Huntsville and saw the young ham last year and I was like 'that is so awesome,' " You know I feel so happy for her and everything and I'm just flabbergasted. "I thought that I would not be eligible anymore and I'd like forgotten about it and now that this just came out of nowhere and I'm super excited. Thank you so much."

Erin just graduated from Columbus High School and got involved in her freshman year in a program that would turn her focus to technology...

"When I went there, I got involved in robotics and I got interested in computer science and electrical engineering," Erin recalls. "I joined a program called the space program, which eventually led to how I started to get involved with ham radio.

"But then, after that, I got more involved in computer science as well, computer science classes and applied to MIT and that's where I'll be going to college next year. I was accepted 'early action' MIT and I'll be studying computer science and electrical engineering there and I'm also going to be joining the ham radio club that they have there."

Erin says ham radio came naturally...

"My teacher was a ham and he was my robotics coach as well and I went on a couple of balloon launches with him after I got my tech license I continued doing balloon stuff and that was really how I got involved with it," Erin explains. "It was like the cool thing that really exposed me to it to begin with.

"And then after that I joined two local radio clubs and I upgraded my license to General the next year and then Extra last year and I've had some fun outside of ballooning.

"Since then I've done some Field Day, a little bit of contesting, the school club roundup is something that I've done a couple of years.

"And I started a club at my school with the call sign W4CHS, for Columbus High School." Erin really got some attention when she got her

acceptance to MIT in a mailing tube. The school suggested the students "hack their tubes," meaning do something cool with them."

Erin did just that using her ballooning and ham radio skills to send her tube to the edge of space equipped with a camera, GPS units and a radio for APRS tracking and a parachute for the fall to earth.

She produced a video that's posted on You Tube. You can find the link <http://tinyurl.comak4jg-space-video> at our website, arnewsline.org.

Erin says right now, amateur radio is something she shares with her dad, but there is a link in her mom's family to the hobby.

"My dad actually kind of inherited my great-grandfather's call sign -K4ETY is my mom's grandfather's call sign that he had," Erin says. "And I never met him, but there's just kind of an interesting fun family fact."

Erin says she's hoping to get her sister, Rachel, who's 15, interested in amateur radio. She says her 16-year-old brother, Brandon, really doesn't demonstrate desire to jump in just yet. Erin says she's a well-rounded person, who not only enjoys space, but, the undersea world as well.

"Scuba diving is something that I started a couple of years ago with my mom and my sister and my brother just got certified last year," Erin says. "And, it's really fun and that's kind of something that not a lot of people know about me is that I'm a certified scuba diver as well as a ham radio operator."

So congratulations to Erin King, AK4JG, Amateur Radio Newsline's latest Young Ham of the Year!

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

The 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) "Young Ham of the Year Award" will be presented to Erin King, AK4JG, on Saturday, August 18th at the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. We hope to see many of you there. (ARNewsline(tm), YHOTY Judging Committee)

**

PROPAGATION: LARGE SUNSPOT ERUPTS ON THE SOLAR DISK

Space Weather reports that a strong solar flare has erupted on the face of the Sun.

According to the solar forecast reporting service a large, active sunspot named AR1515 is growing on the Earth looking side of the solar disk. On the morning of July 2nd it erupted, producing an M5.6-class solar flare that ionized Earth's upper atmosphere with a brief but intense pulse of X-rays and extreme ultraviolet radiation.

SpaceWeather says that more eruptions are in the offing as the sunspot turns more toward Earth. These will likely affect radio wave propagation on most of the frequencies used by radio amateurs and other radio based communicators.

For more information, including a video, and updates check spaceweather.com (SpaceWeather)

**

RADIO LAW: NEVADA HAM WINS LIMITED TOWER VICTORY

A happy ending to a long court battle involving the right of a Nevada ham radio operator to install towers and antennas on his own property.

You may remember back about four years ago when Tom Taromina, K5RC, and the W7RN Comstock Memorial Station crew were in the midst of a big antenna project on Tom's 10-acre homestead outside of Virginia City. Taromina had obtained a building permit for two rotating monopoles. The bases had been installed, and there were other existing antenna structures on the property.

Suddenly, the County issued a Stop Work Order on grounds that were never clear. The US District Court would later write: "The court is sympathetic to Plaintiff's frustration with the county's inconsistent interpretation of its zoning ordinances."

Now, after two trips to the U.S. District Court, the case is closed and K5RC may erect eight towers. Four of these will be less than 45' tall, and the other four greater than 45 feet. You can read the full text of this big win on-line at tinyurl.com/nevada-antenna-victory. (K7VY)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: NYC HAMS ASSIST AT HAWAIIAN AIRLINES LIBERTY CHALLENGE

Members of the New York City Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Service provided maritime communication support of the recent Hawaiian Airlines Liberty Challenge.

The race took place on June 23rd on the rivers of New York Harbor between the Port of New York and New Jersey. The mission of the ham radio volunteers was to be an additional set of eyes and ears on the rescue and safety boats. Also to ensure that reliable communications was available in case an emergency condition arose on the water.

Team members utilized UHF and VHF repeaters, simplex, and VHF Marine radios to communicate with each other, to pass messages in regard to race setup, operations and to other safety boats. They also were in communications with boats in transit in the harbor, to operators of the Staten Island Ferry and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The radio operators were at this event for 12 hours from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Eastern time. They were stationed on rescue and safety boats, as well as on shore with race officials. (Via e-mail)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: NORCAL HAM ISSUED $17000 NAL FOR UNLICENSED OPERATION AND FAILURE TO PERMIT STATION INSPECTION

A Northern California amateur radio operator has been issued a $17,000 Notice of Apparent Liability or N-A-L. This, after the FCC accuses him of operating an unlicensed transmitter on 104.9 MHz and refusing to permit an inspection of his station. Amateur Radio Newslines Don Carlson, KQ6FM, has more:

--

In its July 2nd Notice of Apparent Liability, the FCC accuses Brian R. Ragan, KF6EGI, of Suisun City, California, of apparently willfully and repeatedly violating the Communications Act of 1934 as Amended. This by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter and failing to allow an inspection of his station by FCC personnel.

According to the FCC order, last February an FCC agent T-hunted a signal on 104.9 MHz to Ragan's residence. About two weeks later, agents repeated the exercise to locate the source of a signal on the same frequency after hearing the unlicensed station identifying itself over the air using the call letters KBRS. Again the chase took them to where Brian R. Ragan, KF6EGI, lived.

The agents were able to determine that the signal on 104.9 MHz exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 for unlicensed devices. A search of the FCC database showed no authorization issued to Ragan or to anyone else for operation of a broadcast station on 104.9 MHz in Suisun City.

The NAL says that the FCC agents heard the station operating in the garage and attempted to inspect the station, but did not get any response when they knocked on the residence door. At this point the agents posted a Notice of Unlicensed Operation on the front door and departed.

About 48 hours after the Notice was left, a person who identified himself as Brian R. Ragan contacted the FCC concerning the matter. According to the FCC, during the conversation Ragan admitted to operating a broadcast station on frequency 104.9 MHz for six months. He also told the Commission that he was present when the agents were knocking at his door, but was afraid to answer because he heard the

agents say that they were with the FCC.

Now in issuing the proposed fine, the FCC says that Brian R. Ragan by his own admission, consciously operated the station and did so on more than one day. This says the regulatory agency makes the apparent violations of the Communications Act both willful and repeated.

As to the penalties the FCC has not only ordered the monetary $17,000 monetary forfeiture, but has also ordered that Ragan must also submit a written statement pursuant to Section 1.16 of the FCC Rules. This statement must be signed under penalty of perjury and state that he is in full compliance with Section 301 of the Communications Act and is no longer engaged in the unauthorized operation on 104.9 MHz or any other frequency for which he has no license. Also that he will make his authorized amateur station available for inspection as required by the FCC Rules.

While Ragan may request a reduction or cancellation of the $17,000 forfeiture, he must still provide the written statement on or before July 31st. That's also the last date on which he can file an appeal.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

In the text of the Notice of Apparent Liability the Commission said that Ragan, as a licensed Amateur Radio operator for at least six years, should gave known that any radio equipment at his station must be made available for inspection at any time when requested by the FCC. Also he should be aware of the proper operation of his amateur station in accordance with the FCC's Rules. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: TWO IN BOSTON FINED $15000 EACH FOR UNLICENSED RADIO BROADCASTING

Two unlicensed broadcasters in Massachusetts will have to pay fines of $15,000 each. This after the FCC turns down both of their appeals. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, is here with the details:

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The FCC has dismissed as late a pair of petitions for reconsideration from Lloyd Morris and Robert Brown whom the FCC alleges operated an unlicensed radio station in Boston, Massachusetts.

In 2010 the agency had fined each man $15,000 for allegedly operating a station called "Datz Hits Radio" on 99.7 MHz. In their appeals, both Morris and Brown told the FCC they didn't respond to the original notice nor pay the fine because they couldn't get advice on actions to take and how to file a response.

But in its order denying the appeals, the FCC noted that Morris and Brown broke the law by operating an unauthorized station despite repeated warnings and letters from the Commission ordering them to stop, actions which the FCC found particularly egregious.

The FCC also noted that once a public notice of action is released, petitions for reconsideration must be filed within 30 days. Morris and Brown filed a day late, and the FCC dismissed their petitions as untimely.

In the end, the agency upheld the fine for both men, saying in its decision their explanation was not sufficient to excuse a late response to the original notice.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

Morris and Brown were given the customary 30 days to pay the outstanding fines. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: SUPREME COURT RULES AGAINST THE FCC IN WARDROBE MALFUNCTION CASE

The so-called Janet Jackson "wardrobe malfunction" indecency case which led to increased profanity delay equipment installations for both TV and radio stations has come to the end of the legal road. This after the United States Supreme Court says that it will not review a lower court's ruling that overturned the FCC's $550,000 fine against CBS Corporation for televising a fleeting view of Janet Jackson's breast during the live 2004 Super Bowl half time show.

A federal appeals court had ruled the fine was arbitrary and capricious because it was much larger than indecency fines had been previously, before the commission began issuing large fines for so-called fleeting indecent utterances.

Chief Justice John Roberts agreed with the other justices not to hear the FCC's appeal. In a concurring opinion, he noted the FCC had changed its indecency policy to include fleeting utterances, supporting the arbitrary and capricious arguments, but he also warned that any future wardrobe malfunctions will not be protected going forward.

The Supreme Court last month tossed out FCC indecency fines against Fox and ABC on narrow procedural grounds. At that time it told the regulatory agency that it is free to update its broadcast indecency guidelines. For their part broadcasters have insisted for years that the FCC's indecency guidelines are vague and chill free speech. (RW, Others)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W7EQI SAYS THE MEDIA NEEDS A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

A ham radio operator who serves in Congress says that its time to make the overall media landscape more of a level playing ground. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has the details:

--

House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology Chairman Greg Walden, W7EQI, of Oregon says the way that the FCC regulates traditional video providers is based on a bygone era.

According to Walden, broadcast stations are going mobile and wireless carriers are streaming video at the same time that programmers and pay-TV providers are filling smartphone and tablet screens with their content. Meantime new entities are coming to market like Hulu, Netflix, YouTube and Roku and the Communications Act does not apply to these emerging services.

Walden is not suggesting that lawmakers expand video distribution regulation. Quite the opposite. He says that could harm competition from emerging Internet video providers just as existing cable, satellite and broadcast providers and programmers are experimenting with Internet distribution.

However if lawmakers don't intend to apply the old rules to new participants, then he says that Congress must recognize the inequity of continuing to apply those same old rules to traditional players such as TV stations, cable and satellite providers.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

Representative Walden made these remarks during his subcommittee's hearing on the future of video. (published news reports)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W4ZDP HONORED FOR DEDICATION TO THOMASVILLE ARC

Billy Joe Lewis, W4ZDP, has been honored by Thomasville Amateur Radio Club for founding the club in 1953, and for his dedication to the club for many years.

Lewis became an amateur radio operator prior to the second World War. He served on the Burma Road during World War II, worked many years with his brother, Logan Lewis, at Lewis Enterprises, and spent decades serving as Thomas County Fire Chief.

Along with being a respected business man and dedicated public servant, Lewis founded the club in 1953 and served as Treasurer for 48 years. His dedication to Thomasville Amateur Radio Club, over many decades, has resulted in a strong and vibrant organization dedicated to the radio arts and to the public

The award was presented to W4ZDP at the annual ARRL Field Day event held at the Thomas County Ambulance Service in Thomasville, Georgia on June 23rd. (Via e-mail)
**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: G3PSM AWARDED THE DARC GOLDEN BADGE OF HONOR

UK radio amateur Colin Thomas, G3PSM, has been awarded Germany's Deutscher Amateur Radio Club Golden Badge of Honor. This, for his work in achieving an amateur radio allocation at 472 kHz.

According to the German national amateur radio society, G3PSM was involved in the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations or CEPT preparatory process meetings and at the WRC-12 conference itself. As a result of his skillful lobbying at many meetings, the CEPT proposal for an amateur radio allocation near 600 meters was fully supported and eventually granted.

G3SPM received his award from the DARC Chairman Steffen Schoppe, DL7ATE, at a recent society hosted dinner. (DARC)

**

CLUB NEWS: WESTSIDE ARC CELEBRATES 60 YEARS

While we're handing out roses, we say congratulations to the Westside Amateur Radio Club on their 60th birthday. Headquartered just across the Mississippi River from New Orleans, Louisiana, the Westside Club, founded July 1st, 1952, is the oldest continuously operating amateur radio club in the New Orleans area. A special event station is in the planning stages and we'll have full details just as soon as we know them. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

BREAK 3

Serving the news needs of the world's ham radio community 52 weeks a year since mid 1976, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: TASMANIA WELCOMES SOUTHERNMOST D-STAR REPEATER IN THE WORLD

Tasmania's first D-Star repeater is on the air. VK7RRR is the southernmost D-Star repeater in the world, and the first and only such public digital voice repeater in Tasmania. The system operates in the 70cm band listening on 432.725 MHz and transmitting on 438.125 MHz at 50 watts power out. Prior to the establishment of VK7RRR, Tasmania was the only Australian State or Territory that didn't have at least one D-Star repeater. (WIA)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: STUDENTS DESIGN SUPERCAPICITOR BATTERY FOR ARISSAT

Students at Penn State university have designed and built a state-of-the-art super-capacitor type battery for the next amateur radio ARISSat satellite.

The battery was built to handle 16 charge cycles in a given 24-hour period. That will power the satellite in dark orbits, when the solar panels are not in sunlight.

Dakshina Murthy Bellur, is an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering at Penn State. According to Bellhur, the unit is a simple design. They flip a switch, and they throw it out into space.

Bellhur supervised the battery work, which counted as the students' senior project. More can be found in cyberspace at live.psu.edu/story/60125 (Pennsylvania State University)

**

WORLDBEAT: US BBG CRITICIZES CAMBODIA OVER PROGRAMMING BAN

The United States Broadcasting Board of Governors has criticized the Cambodian Ministry of Information. This for a decision forbidding FM stations in Cambodia to air Khmer-language election programming from Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America during last week's elections.

According to a release the ban involved five stations. The Broadcasting Board of Governors said that Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America play a critical role in informing the Cambodian electorate on fundamental election issues. They also provide a platform for the full spectrum of political opinions in the country.

Presiding Governor Michael Lynton stated that news and information programs help shape a well-educated citizenry and should be encouraged, not denied. These attempts to silence Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America are counterproductive to the goals of building a democratic society in Cambodia. (RW)

**

HAM AWARD HAPPENINGS: LOTW SUPPORT FOR WPX GOES LIVE

Participants in CQ magazine's WPX award program may now use the American Radio Relay League's Logbook of the World or LoTW system to apply for the WPX award and its endorsements. Amateurs will be able to use LoTW logs to generate lists of confirmed contacts to be submitted for WPX credit. Standard Logbook of the World credit fees and CQ award fees will apply. Logbook of the World support for the WPX award program went live on July 2nd. (CQ)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING THE KING OF MOROCCO 13TH ANNIVERSARY

On the air, keep an ear open for Moroccan amateur radio operators to use the special prefix 5C13 through July 27th. This is in celebration of the 13th anniversary of the crowning of Mohammed VI as King of Morocco. Stations heard as of airtime 5C13IG, 5C13KD, 5C13NK, 5C13SG and 5C13YZ. QSL as directed by each operator. (OPDX)

**

ON THE AIR: PC100NOM CELEBRATES THE NETHERLANDS OPEN AIR MUSEUM

Also be on the lookout for Netherlands special event station PC-100-NOM to be active through July 29th. This operation is to commemorate then 100th anniversary of The Netherlands Open Air Museum in the city of Arnhem. The operator is PA0FAW who is using CW, SSB and PSK on the various High Frequency bands. QSL via PA0FAW, either direct, via the bureau or electronically using eQSL. SWL reports are also welcome. (OPDX)

**

DX

In DX, N6NB and W6TAI will be active as E51YNB and E51TAI from Rarotonga for the IARU High Frequency World Championship on July 14th and 15th. Their operation is expected to start a few days before the contest and last several days after the competition concludes. They will be on 40 through 15 meters using SSB only. QSL both callsigns via N6NB.

Members of the Trinidad And Tobago Amateur Radio Society will be active as 9Y4HQ during the same IARU HF World Champion ships on July 14 and 15th. Operations will be on all of the High Frequency bands using CW and SSB. QSL only via DF2RG, either direct or via the bureau.

ZS1WY is currently active from Mozambique as C-91-I-W and is expected to be there for the next year. However he is there working and operations may be limted. Recent Q-S-N reports show he was on 160 meters. QSL via ZS1WY.

A group of hams from the Quito Radio Club will be on the air as HD081QRC (Hotel Delta Zero Eighty One) between July 14th and the 22nd to commemorate the founding of that organization 81 years ago. Activity will be on all bands using CW and SSB. Equipment will include both modern and some beautifully restored vintage radios courtesy of HC1BG. QSL HC1JQ direct or via the bureau.

Lastly, W5JON tells Amateur Radio Newsline that he will once again be operating as V47JA from his vacation home overlooking Calypso Bay, on St. Kitts. Listen out for John from July 12th through August 2nd on 80 through 6 meters using SSB. He also plans to take part in the RSGB sponsored Islands On The Air Contest. QSL's to W5JON either direct or via Loogbook of the World.

(Various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: NEW BROADCAST CENTER PROPOSED FOR ONE WORLD TRADE CENTER

And finally this week, the new spire built to replace the fallen twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City will also become an antenna site. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Davis, W2JKD, has the details on this emerging story:

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The Durst Organization that controls New York City's One World Trade Center in a partnership with The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey plans to add an installation for FM radio and television transmission antennas in the building's 408-foot spire. One that will ultimately bring the new building's height to 1,776 feet and make it the tallest building in North America.

The Empire State Building, 1,250 feet tall with its 204 foot antenna tower is currently the home to 19 FM stations and most of the city's digital television transmitters. Many radio and television broadcasters migrated to the Empire site after terrorist attacks of 911 caused the collapse of the World Trade Center's twin towers in lower Manhattan.

Yet to be determined is whether any of the city's FM broadcasters will leave their current primary sites at Empire State Building for the new location at One World Trade Center or if they will treat the new building spire primarily as a backup site.

I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

One thing that's pretty obvious is that at the prices being quoted for site rental income by Durst, it's unlikely that any ham radio repeaters will find a home at the new broadcast antenna site. Then again, once should never doubt the resourcefulness of New York City area hams. (B&C, RW, others)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

Before we go, this newscast marks the beginning of our 35th year of service to the world's amateur radio community. We find it hard to believe that so many years have gone by since Jim Hendershot, WA6VQP with some help from Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, produced the very 1st Westlink Radio Network newscast, which eventually became the Amateur Radio Newsline.

That was some 1820 weeks ago. This is week 1,281 and, believe it or not, in all this time we have never missed a newscast release date.

With that in mind, we want to take this opportunity to say thank you all of those who have come forward over the years as members of our all volunteer team of writers, producers, reporters and news anchors. It's their selfless devotion that has made all of this possible.

And to all of you in our vast world-wide audience who have so graciously supported our efforts these many years. To you we make the promise to continue to bring you the news of amateur radio and personal communications as we have the past 1281 weeks. Also, to do our very best to keep improving our air product as we proceed into the weeks, months and years ahead.

Let me end this week by simply saying thanks to all of you for being a part of the Amateur Radio Newsline family. Without your encouragement and ongoing support we would have no reason to exist. It is you who make it all worthwhile.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editor's desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 for the 1281st time, and, as always, we thank you for listening.

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161. FCC Daily Digest 07/06/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-06 17:00:45 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522406-2012.07.06-12.21.52--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 280
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 130 July 06, 2
012

[...]

AMENDMENT OF SECTIONS 15.35 AND 15.253 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES REGARDING
OPERATION OF RADAR SYSTEMS IN THE 76-77 GHZ BAND/AMENDMENT OF SECTION 15.2
53 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES TO PERMIT FIXED USE OF RADAR IN THE 76-77 GHZ
BAND. Modified the rules to enable enhanced vehicular radar technologies
in the 76-77 GHz band for improved collision avoidance and driver safety an
d to allow fixed radar applications at airport locations to improve safety
for airport personnel and equipment. (Dkt No. 11-90 10-28 RM-11555). Acti
on by: the Commission. Adopted: 07/03/2012 by R&O. (FCC No. 12-72). OET
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-72A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-72A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-72A1.txt

[...]

162. The ARRL Letter for July 12, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-13 00:48:13 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120712201714.C950335B74E@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 281
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

July 12, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- + Public Service: ARRL to Host Webinar on Amateur Radio Response to
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- On the Air: Additional Diamond DXCC Tools and Reports Now Available
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- Solar Update
- + Silent Key: Walt Maxwell, W2DU (SK)
- Two Operations Approved for DXCC Credit
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + EXECUTIVE ORDER POSES NO THREAT TO THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

On July 6, 2012, the White House released an Executive Order
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/07/06/executive-order-assign
ment-national-security-and-emergency-preparedness->
that addresses National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP)
communications functions of the federal government. Contrary to some
concerns raised in a few Amateur Radio circles, the Order does not
appear to contain any threat to the Amateur Service or its ability to
continue support communications during times of emergency or disaster.
It also poses no threat to amateur spectrum.
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"The purpose of the new entity, which would be created by this Order within the Executive Branch, appears to be to plan for future NS/EP communications and to ensure survivability, hardness and interoperability, as well as to develop a long-term strategic plan for NS/EP communications," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "Based on the Amateur Service's ongoing, positive working relationship with officials at the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications, it is hard to envision that any new management plan would not include Amateur Radio. Nothing in this Order directly affects Amateur Radio's daily operations." A good summary of the content of the Order can be found here <http://www.federalnewsradio.com/519/2933910/Obama-assigns-new-responsibilities-for-keeping-government-connected-in-case-of-emergency>.

==> + LEGISLATIVE NEWS: STATE-LEVEL PRB-1 LAW NOW ON THE BOOKS IN ILLINOIS

Following in the footsteps of various other states, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn signed HB 1390 -- a state-level PRB-1 law -- on June 30, effective immediately. PRB-1 (as codified in Section 97.15(b)) was released by the FCC in 1985 and states that "[s]tate and local regulation of a station antenna structure must not preclude amateur service communications. Rather, it must reasonably accommodate such communications and must constitute the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the state or local authority's legitimate purpose." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/state-level-prb-1-law-now-on-the-books-in-illinois>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: THREE HAMS SCHEDULED TO HEAD TO ISS THIS WEEKEND

NASA will televise the launch and docking of the next mission to the International Space Station (ISS), scheduled for 8:40 PM (CDT) Saturday, July 14 (0140 UTC Sunday, July 15). NASA Flight Engineer Sunita Williams, KD5PLB, along with Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP, and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Akihiko Hoshide, KE5DNI, are completing preparations as they undergo their final Soyuz spacecraft fit. Live NASA TV coverage of the Soyuz TMA-05M spacecraft launch from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan begins at 8:30 PM CDT on Saturday, July 14 (0130 UTC July 15). Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/three-hams-scheduled-to-head-to-iss-this-weekend>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: ARRL TO HOST WEBINAR ON AMATEUR RADIO RESPONSE TO 2012 HURRICANE SEASON

The ARRL will host a webinar from 8-9:30 PM EDT Tuesday, July 17 (0000-0130 UTC Wednesday, July 18) to present information about the 2012 hurricane season and the Amateur Radio response. The program will offer presentations from representatives from the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and WX4NHC (the Amateur Radio station at the NHC), the VoIP Hurricane Net, the Hurricane Watch Net and the ARRL. Webinar registration is open to all, but this informative web session will be

of particular interest to those amateurs in hurricane-prone areas. If you are interested in emergency communications and hurricane preparedness and response, you are invited to attend this online presentation. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-to-host-webinar-on-amateur-radio-response-to-2012-hurricane-season>.

==> ON THE AIR: ADDITIONAL DIAMOND DXCC TOOLS AND REPORTS NOW AVAILABLE

Recently, the ARRL has been able to add some additional tools and reports to the Diamond DXCC system, including an online form that is similar to the Online DXCC application and a listing of operators who qualified for the basic award and how many entities they have credited. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/additional-diamond-dxcc-tools-and-reports-now-available>.

==> + QST: CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR THE AUGUST 2012 ISSUE OF QST

This cover of the August issue of QST spotlights the ARRL International Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) Contest. With the advent of very sensitive receiving preamplifiers and commercially available high-gain Yagi antennas, many VHF operators are enjoying successful weak signal contacts. With a total path length of about 500,000 miles, EME is the ultimate DX! So why not set aside a couple of hours and explore the August issue of QST.

Avid kit-builder and homebrewer Jim Veatch, WA2EUJ, is no stranger to the ARRL Hombrew Challenge. As the winner of the First Homebrew Challenge and the Second Homebrew Challenge (advanced category) <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-arrl-second-homebrew-challenge-and-the-winners-are>,
Veatch once again won the Homebrew Challenge III <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-arrl-homebrew-challenge-iii-and-the-winner-is> with his compact competent transceiver that covers 12 meters, as well as 10 and 6 in a professional looking package that offers features well beyond the requirements -- for a total parts cost of $198.30. This remarkable radio is a dual conversion, downconverting superhet design that uses the latest digital signal processing technology from the second IF on. Read about it -- and find out how to build it yourself -- in Veatch's article "The DSP-610 Transceiver."

If your rig is set up for sound card modes, you can run your radio from afar. In "Remote Control Made Easy," John Raydo, K0IZ, shows how to set up your station to operate via remote control. Operating this way, Raydo says, can help avoid antenna restrictions, as well as allow hams to operate while traveling and can even minimize local RFI problems. If Murphy has ever visited your antenna tuner, you will definitely want to read "My Tuner Tuned My Antenna -- But Now It Doesn't!" by QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR. Hallas shows ways to get your antenna tuner back to doing what it should -- tuning your antenna each and every time.

August 17, 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Radio Act of 1912. It was this piece of legislation that introduced the first rules for Amateur Radio and changed the way we, as radio amateurs, operate. Join ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, as she looks at how Congress, in the wake of the RMS Titanic disaster, took swift action to try and tame the chaos of the airwaves. David Palmer, KB5WIA, made an overland trek to activate a rare grid square for satellite ops. In his article "Backpacking with Satellites," Palmer explains how he was able to work hams using AO-57, VO-52, AO-27, FO-29, AO-51 and SO-50 from CM-79, a grid square that has no roads, houses, electricity or trails.

ARRL Contributing Editor Phil Salas, AD5X, takes a look at the MFJ-994BRT and MFJ-998RT remote automatic antenna tuners in this month's Product Review. He says these antenna tuners "provide reasonably priced remote auto tuner solutions for stations with high power amplifiers." QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, checked out the ICOM ID-31A 70 cm handheld transceiver with D-STAR, saying that it "may be the most user-friendly D-STAR transceiver available. It is also a high feature analog FM transceiver, includes a GPS receiver and works with a host of available options -- a very flexible and useful package."

Of course, there are the usual columns you know and expect in the August QST: Happenings, Hints & Kinks, The Doctor Is In, Short Takes, How's DX and more. Look for your August issue in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> QEX: THE JULY/AUGUST 2012 ISSUE

The July/August issue of QEX -- the ARRL's "Forum for Communications Experimenters" -- is coming soon, and it is full of theoretical and practical technical articles that you won't want to miss. Published bimonthly, QEX features technical articles, columns and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals. The mission of QEX is threefold: To provide a medium for the exchange of ideas and information among Amateur Radio experimenters; to document advanced technical work in the Amateur Radio field, and to support efforts to advance the state of the Amateur Radio art. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/em-qex-em-the-july-august-2012-issue>.

==> + W1AW: W1AW'S ECHOLINK AND IRLP NODES TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

Recent upgrades
<http://www.arrl.org/news/disruptions-possible-as-arrl-reconfigures-internet-services>
to the ARRL's Internet system has caused access to both the W1AW EchoLink Conference Server W1AWBDCT and W1AW's IRLP Node 4292 <http://www.arrl.org/echolink-irlp> to be temporarily suspended. Access to both W1AW systems can be expected by month's end. We apologize for the inconvenience.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Don't let the Sun catch you crying <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49c7WeFTay0>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity rose moderately this week: the average daily sunspot numbers were up nearly 3 points to 120.9, while the average daily solar flux rose more than 28 points to 166.8. There was quite a bit of geomagnetic activity -- the most happening on July 9 -- when the mid-latitude A index reached 29, planetary A index was 30 and Alaska's college A index was 60. The latest prediction shows quiet geomagnetic conditions with the planetary A index at 5 on July 12-26, then 20 on July 27-29, 10 on July 30-31, 15 on August 1-2, 10 on August 3-4, and 8 on August 5. The predicted solar flux is 160 on July 12-13, 155, 145, 140, 130, 120, and 115 on July 14-19, 105 on July 20-21, then rising to 165 on July 28-August 2. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, July 13. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Gerry and the Pacemakers' Don't Let the Sun Catch You Crying <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerry_and_the_Pacemakers>.

==> + SILENT KEY: WALT MAXWELL, W2DU (SK)

M. Walter Maxwell, W2DU, died July 3 at his home in DeLand, Florida, of natural causes. He was 93. Maxwell was best known in the Amateur Radio realm for his ground-breaking series of articles, "Another Look at Reflections." Published in QST in seven parts from 1973-1976, the series explained in plain English concepts such as line loss, SWR, baluns and antenna tuners. The articles were later compiled into a book, Reflections: Transmission Lines and Antennas, which included additional material on matching networks, antennas and the Smith Chart. It was first published by the ARRL in 1990 and went through several editions. Later editions were published by CQ Communications. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/walt-maxwell-w2du-sk-wrote-reflections>.

==> TWO OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that two operations -- the 9X0PY (Rwanda) operation (December 24, 2011-January 7, 2012) and the S21YD (Bangladesh) operation (1994, 1995, 1998 and 1999) -- have been approved for DXCC credit. "If you have had these operations rejected in a recent application, please send an e-mail <bmoore@arrl.org> to the ARRL DXCC Desk," Moore said. "When responding, please include the reference number on your credit slip (found in the upper right hand portion) to help expedite retrieval. Please note that due to heavy e-mail volume, you may not receive a reply. Once updated, results will appear in Logbook of The World (LoTW <https://p1k.arrl.org/lotwuser/default>) accounts, as well as online in the daily listings <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc>."

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- July 14 -- FISTS Summer Sprint
- July 14-15 -- IARU HF World Championship
<http://www.arrl.org/news/the-iaru-hf-championship-heats-up-the-summer>
- July 15 -- CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush
- July 19 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next week:

- July 20 -- NCCC Sprint
- July 21 -- Russian Radio Team Championship; Feld Hell Sprint
- July 21-22 -- North American QSO Party (RTTY); DMC RTTY Contest; CQ
Worldwide VHF Contest
- July 22 -- RSGB Low Power Contest
- July 25 -- SKCC Sprint
- July 25-26 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-
international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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163. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1822 - July 13 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-13 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120713090003.9D88E33C6F@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 282
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1822 - July 13 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1822 with a release date of July 13, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Hams continue to provide assistance as wildfires rage in the great American West; the FCC to investigate telephone failures after the big windstorm of Friday, June 29th; Illinois hams get PRB One like protection for towers and antennas and the story of a 9 year old in South Carolina who learns first hand about ham radio on a television program that he hosts. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1822 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMS CONTINUE WILDFIRE RESPONSE

Wind-fanned wildfires are proving stubborn, but firefighters are beginning to gain ground in their fight against the numerous stubborn blazes dotting the United States West. One of the worst hit is Colorado. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, who grew up there and knows the area well has the latest:

--

In Colorado, one of the hardest hit states, the ARRL reported that since June 9 when the first of the wildfires began, hams have been assisting with disaster communications. This, by providing communications support to the State and to several served agencies.

Shortly after the High Park fire broke out, radio amateurs in Estes Park and Fort Collins were called upon to help provide communications support to the American Red Cross. Hams set up a crossband repeater to provide communications from Red Cross Headquarters in Estes Park to their facilities at the fire base, as well as to an evacuation center at a local high school.

On June 26th, ARRL Colorado Section Manager Jack Ciaccia, WM0G, and Boulder County Emergency Coordinator Allen Bishop, K0ARK, were returning from the High Park Fire when they were notified that Boulder County Office of Emergency Management had activated ARES for the Flagstaff Fire. A lightning strike had hit just west of Boulder, caused a 20 acre fire that due to high winds had become a 230 acre

blaze in only 30 minutes. .

According to Ciaccia, the Boulder Office of Emergency Management wanted ARES positions manned at the Emergency Operations Center. They also wanted to send additional operators to video positions and set up packet and voice communications at a local school that would serve as the evacuation center. Ciaccia said that within one hour, ATV equipped hams had a video camera set up, while other hams at the evacuation center team had set up packet communications, providing data and video, as well as 2 meter FM voice communications. Other portable video positions were fully operational by the end of two hours.

According to Ciaccia, the live video feeds were displayed on huge video screens at the Emergency Operations Center. This permitted the entire emergency staff to see heli-tankers and US Forest Service bomber aircraft making fire retardant drops. They could also see the fire live from the backside, which was not otherwise visible without our portable ATV teams live video feeds.

When the Type I federal fire teams showed up to determine whether the fire would escalate to their level, they noticed the live video feeds at the EOC and made special trips to the ham radio field video sites. Until then there were apparently unaware that a television resource was available that could be used for their purposes and were quite pleased at that capability. The federal officials wanted the A-T-V to continue operations if the fire escalated to a Type I. Thankfully, this fire never grew beyond 300 acres and it remained at a Type II level.

The served agencies in this response included the Boulder County Sheriff's Office and their Office of Emergency Management. Both were extremely pleased that the ham radio community responded so fast and so well.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

Meantime, hams were also active in assisting firefighters at the Waldo Canyon Fire. Amateur Radio Newslines Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with that part of the story:

--
According to Amanda Alden, K1DNN, of Canon City, Colorado, her group was contacted by the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and told that the situation for communications due to the Waldo Canyon blaze was looking grim. Alden, along with Canon City residents Jeff Carrier, K0JSC and Phil Ott, WA0NLK along with Pueblo West resident Neal Tew, KD0NBL, immediately responded. Most of their assignment was the handling of health and welfare communications for a shelter at Summit.

At that point, Jeff Reynolds and Chaz Carmichael, W4CHZ, arrived to help at the Cripple Creek shelter. Here the ham radio operators stayed

around the clock, helped make food, ate with the evacuees and slept on cots while providing various forms of communications. The hams stayed on site until evacuations began lifting.

Amanda Alden is best known as a contributor to the Ham Nation video podcast on TWiT-TV. She was quoted as saying that the hams are proud of how quickly we came together and kept the emergency lines open for the real heroes and victims of the Waldo Canyon Fire.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in Los Angeles.

--

Elsewhere across the West, firefighters are making slow progress in Utah, Wyoming and Montana. A wildfire that had burned more than 390 squares miles in southeastern Montana was reported to now be 90 percent contained. A separate fire in the same region of the state near Fort Howes, was 65 percent contained after blackening nearly 97 square miles. We will have more on ham radio involvement in these wildfire emergencies in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (Denver Post, ARRL, other sources)

**

RESCUE RADIO: FCC TO INVESTIGATE PHONE FAILURES AFTER JUNE 29 STORM

The Federal Communications Commission is looking into the damage that a massive wind storm caused to wireless and landline phone networks in the mid-Atlantic U-S-A. Amateur Radio Newslines Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, is here with more:

--

The storm took place on Friday, June 29th. It swept from the Midwest into the Northeast with the mid-Atlantic states including Virginia and West Virginia taking the worst pounding.

David Turetsky, is the Chief of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. In an e-mailed statement he said that his agency plans to meet with a number of carriers in the coming weeks to explore the cause of service issues to 911 service centers and the overall lessons learned. Truetsky continued by saying that these and other issues will be taken under advisement to ensure that the public receives the best communications service possible and is able to communicate effectively and in a way that safeguards public safety in these situations.

FCC spokesperson Lauren Kravetz said the commission is still investigating the problems with emergency calls, but that 911 operators might have been unable to identify a caller's number and location. She said it is unclear how many people were unable to make an emergency call at all.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Heateher Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, in Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

According to The Washington Post, many 911 callers in the region heard silence, busy signals or recorded messages saying the line was inoperative. Meantime, here in West Virginia, so far there have not been any reports reaching us concerning ham radio related severe weather watch or post storm amateur radio emergency communications efforts. (The Hill)

**

RESCUE RADIO: ARRL TO HOST HURRICANE RESPONSE WEBINAR

Still with emergency communications matters, word that the ARRL will host a webinar from 8 9:30 PM Eastern Daylight Time on Tuesday, July 17th. This, to present information about the 2012 hurricane season and the Amateur Radio response.

The program will offer presentations from representatives from the National Hurricane Center and WX4NHC which is the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center. Also on the agenda are presentations by the VoIP Hurricane Net, the Hurricane Watch Net and the ARRL.

Webinar registration is open to all, but this informative web session will be of particular interest to those amateurs living in hurricane-prone areas.

If you are interested in emergency communications and hurricane preparedness and response, you are invited to attend this online presentation. To register for this webinar, please go to tinyurl.com/ham-hurricane-webinar and fill out the required registration form. (ARRL)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the KJ3LR repeater serving Bradenton, Florida.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: ILLINOIS GOVERNOR SIGNS MEASURE PROTECTING HAM RADIO ANTENNA RIGHTS

Some good news for hams in Illinois. That state now has its own PRB One-like law to protect the antenna rights of radio amateurs. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has the rest of the story:

--

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn has signed Illinois House Bill 1390 into law. This despite unfounded fears on the part of some of the states radio amateurs as widely posted to the Internet. Fears that home owners associations and real estate groups would try to derail the measure. It turned out that these fears were totally groundless.

With Governor Quinn's signature affixed, the Illinois Municipal Code was amended by adding Section 11-13-1.5. Paraphrased, it basically reads as follows:

With regard to Amateur radio communications and antenna regulations, and not withstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no ordinance or resolution may be adopted or enforced by a municipality that affects the placement, screening, or height of antennas or antenna support structures that are used for amateur radio communications. Also, a municipality may not regulate the antennas or antenna support structures that are used for amateur radio communications in a manner inconsistent with this Section.

It should be noted that Illinois House Bill 1390 does not supersede such things as deed restrictions, Covenants, Conditions Restrictions and homeowners association rules that forbid the installation of outdoor antennas. These are considered to be personal and binding business contracts and therefore not subject to override by the new PRB One-like law.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

According to several knowledgeable sources in Illinois, it took less than 3 months to gain House approval, 20 days for Senate approval, and 38 days before Governor Quinn signed the new measure into law. (Various)

**

COMMUNICATIONS HAPPENING: THE GREAT INTERNET BLACKOUT A WHIMPER

The over-hyped Great Internet Blackout of 2012 came and went with little more than a whimper on Monday, July 9th. This, as the so-called "Doomsday" deadline passed with few reports of service outages.

At 12:01 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time the FBI shut down temporary servers it had set up to handle Web traffic for thousands of computers infected with a virus spread by a ring of cyber criminals that the bureau busted last year. Those using the estimated 200,000 computers still infected with the virus were expected to lose their Internet connectivity after the servers were taken off line.

But like the Y-2-K fears some 12 years ago, this latest loss of service simply failed to materialize. According to the FBI, 41,800 of the 211,000 worldwide computers infected with the virus were in the United States, but U.S. Internet providers reported far fewer victims.

(Published news reports)

**

ENFORCEMENT: KJ6CEY ARRESTED FOR ALLEGEDLY POINTING LASER AT FIRE ENGINE

Thirty-one year old Irene Levy, KJ6CEY, of San Jacinto, California, is in trouble with the law once again. This time after allegedly pointing a laser at a firefighter behind the wheel of a fire engine.

At around 3:45 a.m. on June 30th, officers from the San Jacinto Police Department responded to a call to assist CalFire. When officers arrived, the fire personnel claimed that Levy had shined a laser light at the driver of their engine while they were driving on East Main Street. Also that she had shined the laser at their driver several times earlier in the evening as well.

Levy was taken into custody and booked into the Larry Smith Correctional Facility charged with pointing a laser at a moving vehicle and violating the terms of her probation. At last report she was being held in lieu of $25,000 bail.

You may recall back in May of 2010 when Levy used an amateur radio station to interfere with an emergency response dispatcher. In that case Levy was found guilty of jamming emergency radio frequencies by broadcasting threats. As part of her probation, she was ordered to complete a mental health program and stay out of trouble. (Riverside.com)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC ISSUES NOTICE OF UNAUTHORIZED OPERATION TO FALLBROOK CA RESIDENT

The Federal Communications Commission has issued a Notice of Unlicensed Operation to a Southern California, resident for operating an unlicensed transmitter on 106.1 MHz.

According to the FCC Notice, the agency received information that an unlicensed broadcast radio station on 106.1 MHz was allegedly operating in the city of Fallbrook, just North of San Diego. On May 22nd, agents from the San Diego FCC office confirmed by direction finding that the signal on 106.1 MHz was emanating from a residence in Fallbrook's Gird valley area that reportedly belonged to one Lewis A. Parks.

Bob Gonsett, W6VR, is involved with the Fallbrook Amateur Radio Club and works in the broadcast engineering field. He was quoted in the Fallbrook Village News that the station in question was relatively low powered, yet still strong enough that it could be heard for about a mile radius. The unlicensed transmission was picked up by a listener who ordinarily receives KPLM on 106.1 MHz. FCC records show that no license is issued for operation of a broadcast station at this location on 106.1 MHz in Fallbrook.

In the Notice of Unlicensed Operation, Parks was warned that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a valid radio station authorization constitutes a violation of the federal laws. As such it could subject the operator of such a transmitter could be subject to severe penalties. These include but are not limited to substantial monetary forfeitures, seizure of the offending radio equipment, along with criminal sanctions including imprisonment. More on this story is on-line at tinyurl.com/unlicensed-fallbrook-station. (W6VR, Fallbrook Village News)

**

ENFORCEMENT: YET ANOTHER UNLICENSED FLORIDA BROADCASTER FACES A PROPOSED $15000 FINE

The FCC proposed a $15,000 fine against Luis Ernesto Rivas Jr. for operating an unlicensed station in Miami. Earlier this year agents from the Miami office of the Enforcement Bureau traced the source of RF transmissions on 89.1 MHz to an antenna on a roof in Miami. While monitoring the station, they heard a reference to "The Streets FM."

According to the commission's account of the incident, the agents went to the building roof with the building owner and saw radio transmission gear, including an FM transmitter connected to a transmitting antenna and a laptop computer. The computers screen displayed a Facebook webpage stating 'Underground Station In Miami @ USTREAM: Go To Our Website www.thestreetsfm.com ...On 89.1 Miami #1 Underground Station."

The agents found a Web page for the station at www.thestreetsfm.com and matched a photo of Rivas from the site with one from the Florida Department of Motor Vehicles.

Now, in issuing the Notice of Apparent Liability, the FCC says that all of the facts point to Rivas as being responsible for operating the illegal station. It also noted that it had Rivas operated another illegal station in Florida in 2007. That garnered him an extra $5,000 penalty, making the total fine $15,000.

Rivas has the customary 30 days from the date that he was notified of the proposed fine to pay it or to file an appeal. (FCC, RW)

**
NAMES IN THE NEWS: NEW VIDEO FROM MCLEAN FAHNESTOCK SHOWS ALL SHUTTLE LAUNCHES

Some names in the news. First up is McLean Fahnestock who has produced a High Definition video showing all 135 space shuttle launches. The engrossing video runs just under 4 minutes and can be viewed on-line at www.mcleanfahnestock.com/images.html (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: LASER LIGHT DEMO VIDEO BY DH5YM

An interesting albeit short laser light communications video has been made available for on-line viewing by Mario Roessler, DH5YM. In it, you can see the green Laser of DK5WMA and hear the demodulated telegraphy signal. The fading by humid air is clearly visible and audible. The distance was about 48km. The video is on-line at tinyurl.com/green-laser-light (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: INFORMATION ON EARLY 1900'S RADIO EVENTS NEEDED

Leland Francois, KI6AWN, of Oakland, California says that he is looking for what he terms as senior radio operators who could possibly help share some insight on two events. First is the Congressional Radio Communications Act of 1934 while the other is in regard to the historic signing of the United Nations Charter that took place in San Francisco during the summer of 1945. This latter event involved may amateur radio operators and was coordinated by the early Oakland Radio Club under the call sign W6OT. If you have any information on either of these two events please contact Leland Francois by e-mail to ki6awn (at) aol (dot) com. (KI6AWN)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: INVENTOR LEONARD KAHN EX- WB2SSP -S.K.

Communications inventor Leonard R. Kahn, the former WB2SSP, passed away on June 3rd in Florida.

Kahn is likely best remembered for his development of the Kahn-Hazeltine AM Stereo system that used independently modulated upper and lower sidebands. He was also the inventor of the CAM-D AM digital system. Kahn's AM stereo design was later revamped for monaural use and used in the Power-Side system, in which a decreased signal in one sideband is used to improve coverage and loudness. Power-Side became the basis for CAM-D, Compatible AM Digital, a digital system that is still used on several AM stations.

Leonard Kahn worked for RCA Labs for many years and turned out over 80 domestic and 100 foreign patents. As such, he is considered one of the five "fathers of the wireless industry." (Published reports)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: VHF PIONEER LARRY HOGUE, W6OMF-SK

And sadly we also bid farewell to Larry Hogue, W6OMF, who passed away undergoing open heart surgery on June 29th.

W6OMF was the long time Net Control Operator for the Northern California Sidewinders On Two Sunday night net and was one of the leading spokesmen for VHF DX on the West Coast. He was considered by many as being the driving force behind Sidewinders on Two's presence on the West Coast and the Sunday night net had check-ins from Oregon in the North to Los Angeles in the South. (WB6AEA)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: HAM IN SPACE SESSION IN KANSAS CITY

This note for amateur radio operators near Kansas City, Missouri. On July 20th, the Hams in Space Team will be presenting a satellite lecture at the University of Missouri, Kansas City's Communiversity. The Communiversity is the University's Community Education Program available to anyone from the area who wishes to attend.

According to Randy Schulze, KD0HKD, the group is preparing a seminar to be enjoyed not only by licensed radio amateurs but also to members of the general public. This as a means of providing information about one of the fun and amazing things that can be done within the hobby.

If you plan to attend, please register early. All necessary information is on-line at www.umkc.edu/commu. (ANS)

**

WORLDBEAT: WARRINGTON ARC GRANTED GB2012MV FOR OLYMPIC GAMES

The United Kingdom's Warrington Amateur Radio Club have been granted a license to cover both the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games. In a collaborative effort with West Manchester Radio Club and South Manchester Radio and Computing Club, the Warrington group has been assigned the special call sign GB2012MV for the event at Old Trafford, home of Manchester United soccer team. This is one of the venues for the Olympic football tournament. The decision by telecommunications regulator Ofcom means that GB2012MV will be one of only four stations nationwide to be permitted to officially commemorate the Olympic games. The club will begin transmissions on Wednesday, July 25, the start of the Olympic football tournament and end on September 9, which will be the closing ceremony of the Paralympics. (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT: GB2VET FROM JULY 27 TO 29

Also, U-K special event station GB2VET, celebrating the army, navy and air force reunion's 10 anniversary will be operational July 27th to the 29th from East Park in the city of Hull. Plans are to operate all available bands using both World War 2 and modern gear. Modes will include D-Star on VHF and UHF. There will also be a display of vintage equipment as well. (2E0BRQ)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING THE APOLLO MOON MISSIONS

The Italian Radio Association known as the ARI have announced sponsorship of a special award to commemorate the Apollo Space Program. This specific for contacts made before July 31st this month. To qualify for the award you need to have confirmed contacts with the ARI Headquarters Station IQ1TW and three other stations. More information is on-line at aritortona.xoom.it. (Press release)

**

ON THE AIR: EIFFEL TOWER ON THE HAM BANDS

F5SKW and several other French radio amateurs will be on the air 24 hours a day through July 15th as TM70TRS or TM70TE from the 3rd floor of the Eiffel Tower, in Paris. This activity is to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the French Army Signal Corps. The operation will use CW, SSB and RTTY, and on the HF and VHF bands. A special QSL card will be available. QSL via the F6KHX Amateur Radio Club or F5OGL, direct or by the REF QSL Bureau.

This operation also brings to mind a question we frequently get asked by listeners here in the United States. That being, are there any ham radio repeaters operating from the Eiffel Tower? If you know the answer, please drop us an e-mail with repeater call signs and operating frequencies to newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. (OPDX)

**

DXCC: SIX OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT

Bill Moore, NC1L, the ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports that several operations have been approved for DXCC credit. These include the 2012 operations as 3C0E operation from Annobon; 3C6A from Equatorial Guinea, 5X1RO from Uganda and XW4XR from Laos. Also approved are the 2011 J25DXA and 2010 J28RO operations from Djibouti. If you've had any of these operations rejected in a recent DXCC submission please send an E-mail to bmoore (at) arrl (dot) org to be put on the list for an update. (ARRL DXCC)

**

DX

In DX, word that the long awaited St. Paul Island CY9M operation will take to the airwaves from July 26th to August 1st. This as an international team will put this rare island, located approximately 14 miles northeast of the northern tip of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada, on the air. No word yet on bands or modes. QSL via M0URX.

The Hellenic Amateur Radio of Association of Australia is organizing a DXpedition to Campbell Island from November 28th through December 9th. Campbell Island whose prefix is Zed-L-9 is number 15 on the current

DXCC most wanted list. You can follow the planning for this one at www.zl9hr.com.

A group of operators from Switzerland known as the Radio 7 Team will be active from Rodrigues Island as 3B9SP from between October 16th and the 23rd. Most operation will be on CW and SSB with some RTTY and PSK 31. Bands mentioned are all of the HF frequencies plus 6 meters. Logs will be uploaded to Logbook of the World within 6 months after the operation concludes. QSL via HB9ACA.

The World-Wide DX Group will be on Conway Reef from September 24th to October 5th. Their announced goal is to provide as many DXers as possible with this rare DXCC entity. The group says that it will target European contacts during those periods when propagation is possible and we will ask Japan and North America to stand buy during those brief periods when the bands are open to Europe. The World-Wide DX Group is the same group which brought you the 3D2C Rotuma Island Dxpedition in September, 2011.

Lastly, the Araucaria DX Group, in conjunction with the TX3A Team, will sponsor a DXpedition to St. Peter and St. Paul Rocks, in the late November to mid December time frame. The actual dates will depend on weather conditions. The operation will have a strong low band focus. There will be a dedicated 160 meter station operating from sunset to sunrise. A second station will be on 80 and 40 meters at night as well. During the day we will operate two stations on the higher bands including 6 meters based on conditions. RTTY will also be supported. More on this planned operation is on-line at www.pt0s.com.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: MEET COLBY AND VISIT HIS CORNER

And finally this week the story of an inquisitive pre-teen who has his first experience with ham radio with a television camera watching and recording the event. The young mans name is Colby, he's 9 years old, and he is the star of a new children's television series called Colby's Corner that recently began airing on Christian Television Network station WLCN in Summerville, South Carolina. .

The theme of the show is very simple. Its Colby learning about various aspects of life by experience as would any other youngster. Only Colby is sharing his encounters with the kids who watch on WLCN. And one of his recent trips took him to a ham radio station operated by Vince Lombardo, K4AOC.

For those of you who are out of the coverage of WLCN but would like to watch Colby learn about ham radio from a real pro, that episode and all of the others can be seen on line on YouTube. A direct link to the one we have been describing is tinyurl.com/colbys-ham-radio. The show also has a website at www.colbyscornertv.com. (NN4F, QRZ.com)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News Twit-TV, and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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164. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-15 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1342332001@panix.com>
Source record: 283
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
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Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

165. Re: Yaesu FT-60 Programming SW for Mac/Linux?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-16 02:41:04 UTC
From: watsoncj@gmail.com
Message-ID: <21e62a7d-95b0-467c-9b22-1b2201f8b43b@googlegroups.com>
Source record: 284

> > Finally got the Yaesu FT-60 I've been pining for from the SO for xmas;
> > was wondering whether anyone's familiar with any Mac or Linux
> > programming software for it. I have the serial cable and a USB/serial
> > adapter, but a day's worth of Googling hasn't turned up any software for
>
> You might look into vxur/vxuw at http://www.onjapan.net/ham to see if it
> might work for you. I just built it from the source code. I have both an
> FT-857 and a VX-5R. Since Yaesu used, apparently, the same protocol for
> programming both, my suspicion is they kept that for the FT-60, although
> don't know.
>
> The documentation says to put the rig in 'clone' mode and then you use the
> program command line interface to download or write memory. I may do some
> experimenting with my VX-5R if I can located pin-outs on the radio, probably
> from my mic/phone jack, for the rs232. Might be fun to try. (My email
> address at top is good for off-line if you wish.)
>
> 73 ...Edwin, KD5ZLB
> --
> ____
> "Once you have flown, you will walk the earth with your eyes
> turned skyward, for there you have been, there you long to
> return."-da Vinci http://bellsouthpwp2.net/e/d/edwinljohnson

This is a couple years late, but I'll try to summarize the current state of things for posterity.

vxur/vxuw does not work with the FT-60 and has not seen an update for three years.

The hamlib project does not aim to support these "clone mode" radios like the FT-60R. However, the authors do refer people over to CHIRP.

`CHIRP is a free, open-source tool for programming your amateur radio. It supports a large number of manufacturers and models, as well as provides a way to interface with multiple data sources and formats.`

http://chirp.danplanet.com/projects/chirp/wiki/Home

I've been able to read and write memories to my FT-60 using this cable:
http://www.valley-ent.com/catalog/yaesu-radio-programming-cable-ft60-ftdi-chipset-p-215.html

Some guys claim to have great success building their own cables or using the one supplied with the ADMS-1J software. More info on the CableGuide:
http://chirp.danplanet.com/projects/chirp/wiki/CableGuide

166. August 2012 QST - Digital Edition

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-16 14:45:42 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120716141818.A092B253E2@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 285
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

*August 2012 QST - Digital Edition - *Go Now>
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201208/>
Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201208/>

Digital QST

Dear ARRL Member,June 2012 QST - Digital Edition
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201208/>

The digital edition of August /QST/ is available now! Go to this link
and start reading: August 2012 /QST/
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201208/>

The August 2012 Issue...

* A look under the hood of the transceiver that finished first in the
third Homebrew Challenge
* New energy: It's not dad's power system anymore
* Treat antenna tuners with respect and they'll perform well for
years. Conversely...
* Chasing birds while backpacking
* ...and much more!

Digital-Only Features...

* The state of DX: *The complete 2011 edition of the DXCC Yearbook*
* Video overview of two MFJ automatic antenna tuners and the ICOM
ID-31A transceiver
* An expanded version of an article on remote radio control

Every issue of /QST/ is filled with the news and features you need to
keep active in Amateur Radio. After you read through it, visit the
Digital /QST/ Feedback Form
<http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-feedback-form> and tell us what you
enjoyed!

73,

Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Editor

What is a digital edition?
The digital edition of /QST/ is a web-based edition of the journal...a
way to read and interact with the current issue of /QST/ anytime,
anywhere. It simulates the look and feel of our printed version,
complete with page flipping, indexing and easy ways to move around to

get to the content you want. You can choose to read it online, or download the entire issue to your laptop. Each issue includes unique, digital-edition-only content such as video, audio features and extra content. Members can also access the digital archive for access to previous issues.

How do I access the digital edition?
Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access this benefit. You can always find a link to the current digital edition and archives at www.arrl.org/qst <http://www.arrl.org/qst>.

To login or register, go to www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

Forgot password? Go to www.arrl.org/forgot-password <http://www.arrl.org/forgot-password> to reset your password.

Not a member? Join today <http://www.arrl.org/join/QDF> and get access to the current digital edition, now.

Need help? Visit the digital edition help page <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq> for frequently asked questions. Need more help? Contact Member Services by telephone 860-594-0200 or 888-277-5289 (US only) or email circulation@arrl.org <mailto:circulation@arrl.org>.

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You can choose to opt-out* of the mailed, print edition of /QST/ at any time. Complete our online opt-out form <http://www.arrl.org/QST-print-edition-opt-out-form>. Due to the lead time required to prepare /QST/ for mailing, you may receive one last printed issue.
* Disclaimer: Choosing to opt-out of the print edition of /QST/ is voluntary and will not result in a refund or reduction of ARRL membership dues. Any savings will be used to extend the ARRL's reach in the areas of public service, education, advocacy, technology and membership.

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Digital QST

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167. FCC Daily Digest 07/17/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-17 16:13:41 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522550-2012.07.17-11.34.05--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 286
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 137 July 17, 2
012

[...]

LEONARD J. UMINA. Denied the Petition. Action by: Deputy Chief, Mobilit
y Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau by LETTER. (DA No. 12-1134).
WTB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1134A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1134A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1134A1.txt

[...]

168. FCC Daily Digest 07/18/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-18 17:45:29 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522588-2012.07.18-13.06.25--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 287
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 138 July 18, 2
012

[...]

PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF REGULATORY FEES. Seek commen
t on proposals to reform the Commission's policies and procedures for asses
sing and collecting regulatory fees. (Dkt No. 12-201 08-65). Action by:
the Commission. Adopted: 07/13/2012 by NPRM. (FCC No. 12-77). OMD http:/
/hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A2.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A3.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A3.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A2.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-77A3.txt

[...]

169. The ARRL Letter for July 19, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-19 18:55:40 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120719174228.CDA6626146@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 288
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

July 19, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + 2012 Second Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors Set for July
20-21, Agenda Announced
- + Amateur Radio in Space: Astronaut Don Pettit, KD5MDT, Chats with
ARRL
- + Digital Edition of August QST Now Available
- + FCC News: FCC Denies Arizona Ham's Petition to Extend PRB-1 to
Private Contracts, Such as CC&Rs
- + FCC News: FCC Fines Alaska Man for Interfering with Air Traffic
Using CB Radio
- + W1AW: W1AW's EchoLink and IRLP Nodes Temporarily Suspended
- Solar Update
- TAPR Accepting Orders for Hermes SDR Transceiver
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + 2012 SECOND MEETING OF THE ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS SET FOR JULY
20-21, AGENDA ANNOUNCED

ARRL policy is made by its Board of Directors. The 15 voting members
of the Board are the Directors who are elected by the ARRL members in
their respective divisions. The Board meets in January and July,
usually in the Hartford area. ARRL members also elect Vice Directors
who may attend the meetings. ARRL Directors and Vice Directors are
volunteers who work hard to represent the ARRL in their divisions, to
represent the members who elect them on policy issues and to conduct
the committee work that is so important to good decision-making. The
Board will be meeting for its 2012 Second Meeting July 20-21; the
meeting will be preceded by meetings of the Administration and Finance
Committee and the Programs and Services Committee. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/2012-second-meeting-of-the-arrl-board-of-directors-
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set-for-july-20-21-agenda-announced>.

==> + AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: ASTRONAUT DON PETTIT, KD5MDT, CHATS WITH ARRL

NASA Astronaut Don Pettit, KD5MDT, sat down with ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, on Thursday, July 12, for a one-on-one interview about ham radio and life on the International Space Station (ISS). Pettit returned from the ISS on July 1 where he served as part of Expedition 31, spending 193 days in space. He first ventured into space in 2002 on the space shuttle Endeavour as part of Expedition 6, logging more than 161 days in space. In 2008, he was a part of the crew on STS-126, also on Endeavour. Pettit holds the distinction of spending 370 days in space, placing him fourth among US space fliers for the longest time in space. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/astronaut-don-pettit-kd5mdt-chats-with-arrl>.

==> + DIGITAL EDITION OF AUGUST QST NOW AVAILABLE

The digital version of the August QST is now available <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201208/> to ARRL members. The digital version includes many features not available in the print version, such as:

- The complete 2011 edition of The DXCC Yearboook
- Video overviews of two MFJ automatic antenna tuners and the ICOM ID-31A transceiver
- An expanded version of "Remote Radio Control Made Easy," by John Raydo, K0IZ

Every issue of QST is filled with the news and features you need to keep active in Amateur Radio. After you read through it, visit the Digital QST Feedback Form <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-feedback-form> and tell us what you enjoyed! QST is the official journal of the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC DENIES ARIZONA HAM'S PETITION TO EXTEND PRB-1 TO PRIVATE CONTRACTS, SUCH AS CC&RS

In January 2012, Leonard Umina, W7CCE, of Gilbert, Arizona, filed a Petition for Rulemaking, asking the FCC to "expand its policy of limited preemption of state and local regulations governing amateur station facilities to preempt private land use regulations such as covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs) and rental agreements that limit amateur licensees' ability to deploy antennas." On July 16, the FCC notified Umina that it had denied his Petition. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-denies-arizona-ham-s-em-petition-em-to-extend-prb-1-to-private-contracts-such-as-cc-rs>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC FINES ALASKA MAN FOR INTERFERING WITH AIR TRAFFIC USING CB RADIO

On July 17, the FCC announced that it had issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture and Order in the amount of $12,500 to Glenn S. Yamada, of Kenai, Alaska. Yamada is accused of "apparently willfully and repeatedly violat[ing] Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Sections 95.409(a) and 95.411(a)(1) and (b) of the FCC Rules by operating his CB radio without requisite Commission authorization." In January 2012, the FCC received a complaint regarding interference to an authorized user in the aeronautical band -- a safety of life service -- on 21.964 MHz. According to the FCC, the complaint "Concerned a male subject talking and interfering with the control and monitoring of air traffic over the North Atlantic." The FCC's High Frequency Direction Finding Center (HFDFC) monitored the frequency over the next few days, and on January 31, "observed a subject matching the details of the compliant transmitting on the frequency 21.965 MHz." The HFDFC noted that the subject was using the call "1600 Alaska," that the actual operating frequency was 27.025 (CB channel 6) and that the transmissions were coming from Kenai. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-fines-alaska-man-for-interfering-with-air-traffic-using-cb-radio>.

==> + W1AW: W1AW'S ECHOLINK AND IRLP NODES TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

Recent upgrades <http://www.arrl.org/news/disruptions-possible-as-arrl-reconfigures-internet-services> to the ARRL's Internet system has caused access to both the W1AW EchoLink Conference Server W1AWBDCT and W1AW's IRLP Node 4292 <http://www.arrl.org/echolink-irlp> to be temporarily suspended. Access to both W1AW systems can be expected by month's end. We apologize for the inconvenience.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "The total eclipse of the Sun <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQZmCJUSC6g>" Cook, K7RA, reports: In last week's Solar Update <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-k7ra-solar-update-226>, I reported a blast of energy from a solar flare headed our way, with a predicted arrival of Saturday, July 14. The CME hit at 1800 UTC, and had a huge effect on propagation and geomagnetic indices. The next day, the planetary A index was 60, the mid latitude A index was 39 and the high latitude college A index was 88. Conditions haven't been this disturbed since March 9, 2012, when the mid-latitude A index was 57, planetary A index was 67 and the college A index was 107. All other indices were lower, with the weekly average of daily sunspot numbers down more than 16 points to 104.7, while the average daily solar flux was down 25 points to 141.8. The latest prediction from NOAA/USAF has solar flux at 100 on July 19, 95 on July 18-22, back to 100 on July 23, 105 on July 24-25, then 125 and 150 on July 26-27, and 165 on July 28-August 2. The

predicted planetary A index is 5 on July 19-21, then 12 and 8 on July 22-23, 5 on July 24-26, then 25 on July 27, 20 on July 28-29, 10 on July 30-31, 15 on August 1-2, 10 on August 3-4, 8 on August 5, and back down to 5 on August 6-22. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, July 20. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Carly Simon's You're So Vain <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/You%27re_so_vain>.

==> TAPR ACCEPTING ORDERS FOR HERMES SDR TRANSCEIVER

Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR <http://www.tapr.org/>) is now accepting orders for the Hermes software-defined transceiver. Hermes is part of the non-profit openHPSDR project. Spanning 50 kHz-55 MHz, the Hermes transceiver <http://openhpsdr.org/wiki/index.php?title=HERMES> includes a direct down-conversion receiver, a direct up-conversion 500-mW transmitter and a gigabit Ethernet interface -- all on one board. Also on board is an RF-quiet switch-mode power supply, allowing Hermes to run from a single 13.8 V dc source. The transceiver is completely assembled and tested. The price of the Hermes transceiver is $895 for TAPR members; the price for non-members is $940. The order page <http://tapr.org/kits_hermes.html> will close Wednesday July 25. TAPR states that there will be only one production run of Hermes boards and that they will build only the number necessary to fulfill orders received on or before the July 25 cutoff. Estimated delivery is October 15.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- July 20 -- NCCC Sprint
- July 21 -- Russian Radio Team Championship; Feld Hell Sprint
- July 21-22 -- North American QSO Party (RTTY); DMC RTTY Contest; CQ Worldwide VHF Contest
- July 22 -- RSGB Low Power Contest
- July 25 -- SKCC Sprint
- July 25-26 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- July 27 -- NCCC Sprint
- July 28-29 -- New Jersey QSO Party; RSGB IOTA Contest
- July 29 -- ARS Flight of the Bumblebees

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- July 20-22 -- ARRL Montana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/montana-state-convention-78th-glacier-waterton-international-hamfest>,
East Glacier, Montana
- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-hamfest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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170. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1823 - July 20 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-20 09:00:12 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120720090003.8FCF733C91@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 289
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1823 - July 20 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1823 with a release date of July 20 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. The FCC turns down a request to extend PRB-1 to overturn deed restrictions, the ARRL says a White House Executive Order on telecommunications should not impact ham radio, proposed changes in British laws governing spacecraft could make microsat launches by UK hams possible and the FCC continues its crackdown on unlicensed broadcasters. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1823 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC DENIES PETITION TO EXPAND PRB-1 TO COVER CC&R

Deed restrictions and other land use covenants that limit the antenna rights of many hams will remain in place for the time being. So says the FCC in its July 16th denial of a rule making request filed by Leonard Umina, W7CCE, of Gilbert, Arizona. One that sought to expand the policy of limited Federal preemption of state and local regulations governing amateur towers and antennas. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, has the latest:

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In its denial, the FCC told Leonard Umina, W7CCE, that when it codified PRB-1 as Section 97.15(b) of the Amateur Service Rules back in 1985, the mandate to state and local municipalities were that they reasonably accommodate the antenna needs of ham radio operators. But at the same time the FCC purposely avoided extending this preemption to cover CC&Rs and other land use restrictions in deeds and bylaws that curb the installation of antennas and associated support structures.

When the matter was brought before it again in 2001 the Commission noted that its decision within the framework of PRB-1 to exclude CC&Rs from its preemption policy was based on the fundamental difference between state and local regulations as opposed to land use restrictions. The latter are considered as private contractual terms to which the purchaser of a property voluntarily agrees to. The FCC also concluded in its PRB-1 decision that there had not to date been a sufficient showing that CC&Rs prevent Amateur Radio operators from pursuing the basis and purpose of the Amateur Service.

Lastly, and perhaps most important, the FCC pointed out to W7CCE that should Congress see fit to enact a law mandating the expansion of its limited preemption policy to include more than state and local regulations, it would do all it could to expeditiously act to fulfill such an order. It noted that shortly after Umina filed his request that Congress enacted a directive regarding an investigation into the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief. This report will identify impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications and provide recommendations regarding the removal of such impediments. This could conceivably include unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations.

In closing, the FCC noted its belief that it would be inappropriate and premature for the regulatory agency to consider modifying its policy until after Congress has an opportunity to review the report and decide whether to enact laws mandating the expansion of PRB-1 to include more than state and local regulations.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

The order denying Umina's Rule Making request was signed by Scot Stone who is the Deputy Chief of the Mobility Division of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. As we go to air, its unknown if W7CCE plans to appeal the FCC pronouncement on his rule making request, or await the outcome of the current Congressional inquiry. You can read the complete text of the FCC decision on-line at tinyurl.com/no-ccr-overide. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: ARRL SAYS NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER POSES NO THREAT TO HAM RADIO

According to the ARRL, an executive order dealing with telecommunications poses no threat to the amateur radio service. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, reports:

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On Friday, July 6th the White House released an Executive Order signed by President Obama that addresses the National Security and Emergency Preparedness communications functions of the federal government. Contrary to some concerns raised in a few amateur radio circles, the order does not appear to contain any threat to the Amateur service or its ability to continue support communications during times of emergency or disaster. It also poses no threat to hams for continued access to their spectrum.

Dan Henderson, N1ND, is the League's Regulatory Information Manager. He explained that the purpose of the new entity, which would be created within the Executive Branch by this Order, appears to be to plan for future National Security and Emergency Preparedness communications and

to insure survivability, hardness and interoperability. It will also develop a long-term strategic plan for National Security and Emergency Preparedness communications.

Henderson noted that based on the Amateur service's ongoing, positive working relationship with officials at the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications, it is hard to envision that any new management plan would not include Amateur Radio. N1ND says that nothing in this Order directly affects amateur radio's daily operations.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

N1ND says that a good summary of the content of the Order can be found online at tinyurl.com/new-communications-order. (ARRL)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: PROPOSED LAW CHANGES COULD MAKE SPACE MORE FRIENDLY FOR UK HAM RADIO

Some good news for ham radio space enthusiasts in the UK. Proposed changes in laws governing satellites launched any United Kingdom entity could soon become friendlier. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:

--

A posting on the United Kingdom's Space Agency Web Site has announced what is called the "Reform of the Outer Space Act 1986 Consultation". These are a pair of proposals that, if enacted as written, could make United Kingdom CubeSat launches more ham radio friendly.

The key aspects of the changes are the proposals to waive the capped liability and insurance requirement for in-orbit operation of any satellite that meets the criteria of a CubeSat. Also, to remove the requirement for unlimited indemnity from satellite operators.

The existing United Kingdom Outer Space Act imposes heavy additional costs up to £50,000 Pounds or $78,300 US dollars a year on those wishing to launch small educational CubeSats. That additional cost has acted as a major deterrent and to date no such UK CubeSat has been launched.

The United Kingdom Outer Space Act covers all UK satellites irrespective of size. This, from tiny low cost educational CubeSats up to large commercial satellites that cost 10's of millions of dollars to manufacture and launch.

The UK Space Agency says that responses to the Consultations are due by August 31st.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, watching the skies from outside the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

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By the way, a Consultation in the United Kingdom is very similar to a Notice of Proposed Rule Making here in the United States. (G3VZV, AMSAT-UK)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NEW ASTRO-HAMS ARRIVE AT THE ISS AS PART OF THE EXPEDITION 32 CREW

Three ham radio space fliers arrived safely at the International Space Station early Tuesday, July 17th. This, for a four-month stay while also bringing the orbiting outpost back to its full crew complement of six. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennantt, K6PZW, reports:

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The Soyuz space capsule carrying NASA astronaut Sunita Williams, KD5PLB; Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP and Japanese space explorer Aki Hoshide, KE5DNI, docked with the station at 12:51 a.m. Eastern Daulight Time on Tuesday, July 17th . This following a two-day flight from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

At docking time, the Soyuz spacecraft and space station were at an altitude of 251 miles over North-Eastern Kazakhstan. The Soyuz parked itself at an Earth facing docking port on the station's Russian built Rassvet module. After the hatches were opened between the Soyuz and ISS, Williams, Malenchenko and Hoshide moved to the ISS and joined their fellow Expedition 32 crew members Sergei Revin; Gennady Padalka, RN3DT and Joseph Acaba, KE5DAR.

Padalka, Revin and Acaba have had the space station to themselves since July 1st. That's when three previous crew members returned to Earth and brought the station's previous Expedition 31 to a close.

Padalka, Revin and Acaba return to Earth in mid-September. When that happens, Sunita Williams, KD5PLB, become the commander of the I-S-S team. She, Malenchenko and Hoshide are scheduled to depart the station on November 12th.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'n Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

As an aside, this latest group crew members arrived at the International Space Station exactly 37 years to the day after the world's first truly international spacecraft meeting took place on-orbit. That was the famed docking between a NASA Apollo spacecraft and a Russian Soviet Soyuz 19 capsule during the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project in 1975. Many believe that's what laid the groundwork that led

to the International Space Station that is on-orbit today. (Published news reports)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W5TXR repeater serving Schertz, Texas.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: ANOTHER ALLEGED UNLICENSED BROADCASTER BUSTED

The FCC has issued a Notice of Apparent Liability in the amount of $10,000 to Florida resident Michael Gregory. This for his alleged operating an unlicensed radio station calling itself "Down South Radio 305" on 92.7 MHz in the city of Miami.

This saga began to unfold last March, That's when the FCC received a complaint that lead agents from the Miami office of the Enforcement Bureau to monitor for the station. They soon heard a person identify himself as "DJ Miami of 92.7 Heavy FM" and advertise the website www.whvy927.com. Agents tied Gregory to the site by finding his domain name registration as well as his photo online.

The agents then went out on a transmitter hunt and traced the source of the transmission to an antenna on the roof of a commercial building in Miami. Records showed no one was authorized to operation a station on 92.7 MHz, nor at that location.

While waiting in the lobby for the building owner, the agents actually met Gregory. He took them to his leased suite, admitted he ran the station, and turned off the transmitter. Now Gregory has 30 days to pay the proposed fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

RADIO CRIME: MONTREAL STATION TORCHED AFTER CRITICIZING FORMER HAITIAN DICTATOR

A Haitian radio station in Montreal, Canada, has been hit by arsonists. This, after hosts criticized the country's former dictator.

CPAM 1610 AM was set ablaze following calls by show hosts for a criminal trial for Jean-Claude Duvalier, who returned to that nation last year.

CPAM's north-end administrative offices were partially destroyed and the studio suffered water damage, rendering it useless. A spokesperson for the Montreal fire department said the front window of CPAM 1610's studio was smashed and a fire lit near the broken glass at about 4 a.m.

Monday July 2nd. Another fire was started at the back of the second floor where the station's office is located, he said.

Engineers had the station back on the air about 10 hours after the attack from an alternate studio location. According to its management, CPAM is a beacon for the more than 100,000 Haitian expatriates in Montreal who form the largest such community in Canada. (Montr&#65533;al Gazette, B&C)

**

RADIO HAPPENINGS: ITALY CLOSING NATIONAL SOUND ARCHIVES

Italy is shutting down its famed National Sound Archives. This as a likely result of the continuing economic downturn that has hit many European nations.

On July 6th, a simple 12 line document was signed by the government to shut down the archive of priceless audio history dating back to the dawn of the machine recording. According to one source there are close to half a million recordings housed in the Italian archive.

The big concern now among preservationists is that unless another such museum such as the United States Library of Congress takes over the Italian archive, that it could wind up being sold off on the streets or on an on-line auction site, piece by piece. More is on-line at www.artsjournal.com (Arts Journal, Critical Distance Weblog)

**

HAM STUFF: NEW FREQUENCY CHART AVAILABLE FROM US GOVERNMENT BOOKSTORE

If you have ever had the yearning to own one of those nifty United States radio spectrum posters to hang on your wall, now is your chance to get one. Properly titled the United States Frequency Allocations: The Radio Spectrum Chart, the very latest edition is now available from U.S. Government Printing Office Book Store at a cost of $12. To order yours, take your web browser to tinyurl.com/big-frequency-map and follow the directions you will find there. (RW, E- News, others)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: UK SPECIAL EVENTS STATIONS FOR THE 2012 OLYMPICS

As part of the celebration of the 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics, two flagship amateur radio stations will be active during the games.

The Cray Valley Radio Society will host England's Olympic celebration from the Royal Borough of Greenwich. This is home to many of London's events outside the main Olympic arena. The call-sign used at that location will be Two Oscar One Two Lima. A similar amateur radio celebration is happening in Barry, South Wales, where the call-sign will be Two Oscar One Two Whisky.

Both groups are looking to make as many contacts as possible worldwide during the Olympics. They will be on the air 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from Wednesday July 25th through Sunday September 9th. The London station will be open to the public from 10am to 4pm and the Welsh station from 10am to 5pm daily. Both are local times.

Commemorative QSLs will be available for both operations. QSL information is on-line at at www dot Two Oscar one two Lima dot com and www dot Two Oscar One Two Whisky.com. Both stations hope to contact you on the air. (Southgate)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: K4C TO CELEBRATE THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO

Special Event station K4C will be on the air on July 25th to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. According to the Movimiento Radioaficionados which is sponsoring the operation, the purpose of the activity is to commemorate this important date for citizens of Puerto Rico.

Operations will take place on the campus of the National Park Julio Enrique Monagas of the Municipality of Bayamon beginning at 1400 UTC. Activities will be on the 40 through 10 meter bands, and locally on the chain of repeaters operated by the club. QSL via WP4NPC. (KP3CB)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: RESULTS OF 2012 ARDF YOUTH COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

The results are in from the 2912 Youth ARDF Championship event that was held this year near the town of Siauliai, Lithuania. In all there were 104 contestants representing 9 countries. Medals went to Russia, the Ukraine, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria and Lithuania. The competition was organized by LY2CD and a company of volunteer assistants. The full results are on-line at www.qrz.LT/eyac. (IARU-R1)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: MICULESCU NEW GM OF ROMANIAN BROADCASTING

Some names in the news. The Romanian parliament recently confirmed Ovidiu Miculescu as the new general manager of the Romanian radio broadcasting corporation. With more than 20 years experience in media, Miculescu has held executive positions at the public broadcaster as well as at private radio and television stations. Miculescu said that modernization of public radio and the resolution of issues regarding coverage throughout Romania were among priorities. (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VA4AJG APPOINTED RAC MIDWEST REGION DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Allan Grant, VA4AJG, has been appointed as Deputy Director for Radio Amateurs of Canada Midwest Region. The Midwest region includes all the VE4 and VE5 call sign area.

Each Director of RAC is authorized to appoint one Deputy Director from among RAC members residing in their region to serve at the pleasure of the Director. Grant was appointed by Canada Midwest Region Director, Derek Hay, VE4HAY. (RAC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: AO-7 DISTANCE RECORD BROKEN AGAIN BY AC0RA AND OM3BD

July 4th saw AC0RA and OM3BD set yet another world distance record using ageing AMSAT-OSCAR-7 ham radio bird. This by breaking their own record set just 48 hours earlier.

The new distance record is 7903.55km comfortably exceeding the previous contact over a path of 7849km by 54.55 kilometers.

OM3BD was in Grid Square JN88mf. He says that AC0RA once again woke up early and this time drove 150 miles to grid EN41ad. They had a 30 second contact at 09:49 UTC to set their latest distance record.

Recordings, pictures, and further information are on-line at tinyurl.com/ao7-dx-record. (Southgate)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: WRITER H. WALTER MAXWELL - S.K.

Famed writer M. Walter Maxwell, W2DU, passed away on July 3rd at his home in DeLand, Florida.

Known Better as Walt Maxwell. W2DU was best known in the amateur radio circles for his ground-breaking articles, "Another Look at Reflections." These were published in QST Magazine in a seven part series from 1973 to 1976,and explained in plain English concepts such as line loss, SWR, baluns and antenna tuners.

The articles were later compiled into a book, titled Reflections: Transmission Lines and Antennas, that included additional material on matching networks, antennas and the Smith Chart. It was first published by the ARRL in 1990 and went through several editions. Later editions

were published by CQ Communications.

W2DU is survived by his spouse, Jean Binkley Mayhew, three sons, William W. Maxwell of DeLand, Florida, Richard A. Maxwell of Marietta, Georgia, and John R. Maxwell of Gainesville, Florida, and one daughter, Susan M. Glasnapp of Delray Beach, Florida.

More details of his life and work are available on his website at www.w2du.com. At the time of his passing, Walt Maxwell, W2DU, was age 93. (ARRL, others)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: FAMED HAWAII BEACON KEEPER PAUL LIEB, KH6HME-SK

Hawaii's weak signal legend, Paul Lieb , KH6HME, has also become a Silent Key. According to Gordon West, WN6NOA, who spoke to the family, Lieb was visiting his sister and other relatives on the U.S. mainland. Leib's sister told WB6NOA that on Sunday night July 15th, KH6HME had dinner with them, went to bed, and died peacefully in his sleep.

Paul Lieb, KH6HME, maintained four VHF and UHF propagations beacons atop the Mauna Loa volcano which were regularly received along the U-S west coast. This usually took place in July when troposphere conditions permitted. And it was not unusual for KH6HME to make the 3 hour drive to the 8200 foot site of the beacons to maintain them and get on the air himself to be a bit of rare VHF and UHF DX. West says that while they are currently on the air that the long term fate of beacons is unknown.

As we go to air, funeral arrangements for Paul Lieb, KH6HME, were pending. (N6CL, WB6NOA)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FITSAT-1 - A VISUAL MORSE CODE BIRD

Call this one visual Morse code from space. This with word that the FITSAT-1 ham radio cubesat will carry an optical communications experiment that aims to write in C-W across the night sky using super high intensity LED's as a lighting source.

FITSAT-1 will be carried to the International Space Station on July 21st from where it will be deployed sometime in September. For more information see www.uk.amsat.org/2037. (AMSAT UK)

**

WORLDBEAT: FRANCE WILL NOT PREEMPT DIGITAL RADIO FOR RFE

Digital radio may not come into being in France. According to the daily newspaper Les Echos, the French government has decided not to preempt digital radio frequencies for Radio France exclusive use.

In May, telecommunications regulator CSA received more than 178 applications for the cities of Paris, Marseille and Nice. It also announced plans to open a call for digital terrestrial licenses for France's next 20 biggest cities.

It appears as if the public service broadcaster, which has first right of refusal on frequencies, will thus not go digital, in line with certain private groups including RTL, NRJ and NextradioTV.

The French government is expected officially to announce its decision on this matter in the coming days. However, if reports are true, observers say that they doubt the digital system will be able to move forward in France. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: RF EXPERIENCED WITH CONTROL SYSTEM IN WESTERN SOUTH AFRICA

Interference problems are being experienced by radio amateurs in the Paarl and Stellenbosch Municipal areas of South Africa. That's where a load control system is currently being installed to switch a geyser off during peak hours.

According to the South African Radio League, this unit causes disturbances right through the High Frequency spectrum. Word is that South African telecommunications regulator ICASA has investigated the complaints and is currently having discussions with the Municipal officials and the South African Bureau of Standards regarding a fix. (SARL)

**

DXCC NEWS: RWANDA AND BANGLADESH APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT

Several more operations have been approved for DXCC credit. According to Bill Moore, NC1L, who is the ARRL Awards Branch Manager, these are the 9X0PY DXpedition to Rwanda that ran from December 24, 2011 through January 7, 2012. Also approved are the S21YD Bangladesh operations for 1994, 1995, 1998, and 1999. If you have had cards for any of these rejected in the past please contact Bill via e-mail to bmoore (at) arrl (dot) org to be put on the list for an update. (ARRL)

**

In DX, word that UA1OEJ will be active stroke P from Solovetsky Islands from July 22nd to the 31st. Operations will be on the HF bands using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via his home callsign.

JA8COE will once again be active stroke 8 from Yagishiri Island between July 27th and the 29th. No word on what bands or modes will be used. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau.

A team of Saudi operators will activate Al-Dhahrah Island as 7Z7AB possibly between October 1st and the 15th. More details and a Web page will be forthcoming. Meantime keep an eye on their page on QRZ.com.

K9HZ will once again be active as J68HZ from his villa at Labrelotte Bay, St. Lucia. Listen out for him between August 1st and the 18th on 80, 40 and 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to KH9Z.

OH1VR and OH3JR will be operational stroke VK9 from Lord Howe Island between November 17th and the 27th. Activity will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL only direct via their home callsigns with a self addressed envelope and an International Reply Coupon to cover return postage.

5B4AIF will be active as E51E from a villa in Tautu Village on Aitutaki Island between December 10th, 2012 and January 5th, 2013. QSL only via EB7DX.

Lastly, members of Russia's Armed Forces Amateur Radio Union will be on the air as R100WWS from many areas of that nation between August 10th and the 18th. This operation is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Military Air Forces of Russia which were formed on August 12, 1912. Activities will be on all bands and using all modes. QSL via RV3YR.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: STOPPING COPPER THEFT IN ITS TRACKS

British Telecom is taking on copper cable thieves. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Damron, N8TMW, has the details:

--

A new tool has been unveiled in the United Kingdom to literally locate copper wire thefts as they are taking place.

Called the Rapid Assessment British Telecom Incident Tracker or RABIT, this computer based program has the ability to monitor all 120 million kilometers of cable on British Telecom's phone network.

RABIT is a real-time system based on a neural network that has been trained to sense the difference between a telecommunications cable being severed and a cable that has gradually failed. It does this by undertaking line tests and bandwidth measurements to home in on a telltale signature of a cable cut. This event data is then immediately plugged into an incident monitoring system which gives British Telecom's security staff a national view of trouble spots on its networks, including cyber attacks.

I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, in Chareston, West Virginia, reporting.

--

The industrial scale theft of copper telecommunications cables is a massive world-wide problem. In the UK alone, cable worth ?770 million pounds was stolen from overhead and buried telephone lines and railway signaling systems in 2011. (New Scientist)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV, and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, at our new QTH in El Campo, Texas, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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171. FCC Daily Digest 07/20/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-20 17:09:57 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522634-2012.07.20-12.29.00--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 290
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 140 July 20, 2
012

[...]

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF COMPETITION IN THE MARKET FOR THE DELIV
ERY OF VIDEO PROGRAMMING. The Fourteenth Report to Congress on the status
of competition in the market for the delivery of video programming as requ
ired by Section 628(g) of the Communications Act. (Dkt No. 07-269). Actio
n by: the Commission. Adopted: 07/18/2012 by REPORT. (FCC No. 12-81). MB
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A2.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A3.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A3.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A2.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-81A3.txt

[...]

ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF REGULATORY FEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012. The C
ommission sets its FY 2012 regulatory fee rates in this Report & Order. (Dk
t No. 12-116). Action by: the Commission. Adopted: 07/13/2012 by R&O. (
FCC No. 12-76). OMD http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC
-12-76A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-76A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-76A1.txt

[...]

172. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-22 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1342936800@panix.com>
Source record: 291
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

173. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-22 06:05:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1342937100@panix.com>
Source record: 292
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

174. The ARRL Letter for July 26, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-26 17:59:19 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120726170652.8694F26C8C6@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 293
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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July 26, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL BOARD PLANS FOR 2014 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AT 2012 SECOND
MEETING

When the ARRL Board of Directors met for its 2012 Second Meeting
July 20-21 in Windsor, Connecticut, it did so with a full agenda.
Besides hearing and approving recommendations from its two standing
committees -- the Administration and Finance Committee and the Programs
and Services Committee -- the Board voted to hold the 2014 ARRL
National Convention July 17-20 in Hartford, Connecticut, the birthplace
of the League in 1914. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-board-plans-for-2014-centennial-celebration-at
-2012-second-meeting>.
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==> + ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS NAMES AWARD RECIPIENTS AT 2012 SECOND MEETING

The ARRL Board of Directors named four ARRL award recipients at their July 20-21 meeting in Windsor, Connecticut: the 2011 Doug DeMaw, W1FB, Technical Excellence Award; the 2012 ARRL Technical Innovation Award; the 2012 Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award, and the 2012 Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award. In addition, the Board named former ARRL West Gulf Division Director Thomas W. Comstock, N5TC, as Director Emeritus of the ARRL. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-board-of-directors-names-award-recipients-at-2012-second-meeting>.

==> + END OF AN ERA: HEATHKIT DECLARES BANKRUPTCY, CLOSES FOR GOOD (AGAIN)

The July 19 edition of The Herald-Palladium -- a newspaper serving the communities of Benton Harbor and St Joseph, Michigan -- is reporting that Heathkit Education Company has declared bankruptcy and has officially closed its doors after defaulting on its lease. According to the paper, Heathkit employed more than 1800 people in its heyday after World War II. When it finally closed, its workforce totaled fewer than six people. This is the second time since 1992 that Heathkit Educational Services has shuttered its doors. In August 2011, Heathkit announced it was returning to the kit building business, and in September, that it would once again be manufacturing Amateur Radio kits. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/heathkit-declares-bankruptcy-closes-for-good-again>.

==> ON THE AIR: THE BANDS HEAT UP FOR THE 2012 ARRL AUGUST UHF CONTEST

VHF/UHF weak-signal operators across North America are making final tests on their stations in preparation for the ARRL August UHF Contest, which is coming up over the weekend of August 4-5. According to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, this contest will focus on 222 MHz and above. There will be lots of activity, and hopefully lots of propagation, too! "With much of the nation in the midst of a summer heat spike, high-pressure zones can begin to form in the atmosphere," Kutzko explained. "If they stick around long enough -- and are stable enough -- enhanced propagation can occur in the troposphere, extending the normal usable range of UHF+ frequencies from line-of-sight to several hundred miles. Several cloudless days with very little wind are signs that enhanced tropospheric enhancement could be coming your way."Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-bands-heat-up-for-the-2012-arrl-august-uhf-contest>.

==> + ON THE AIR: SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS IN LONDON AND WALES ON THE AIR FOR 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Two special event call signs were activated on Wednesday, July 25 to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games: 2O12L from

London, England and 2O12W from Barry, Wales. Both stations will be on the air for the duration of the Games -- July 25-August 12 -- and continuing through September 9. Organizers hope to make at least 80,000 contacts during the seven weeks that 2O12L and 2O12W are on the air. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/special-event-stations-in-london-and-wales-on-the-air-for-2012-olympic-and-paralympic-games>.

==> + FCC NEWS: VANITY CALL SIGN FEE TO GO UP 80 CENTS

On July 20, the FCC announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 80 cents, from $14.20 to $15. The fee will increase 30 days after notice of the increase is published in the Federal Register; no date has yet been set for publication. Earlier this year, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 14 years of the current program -- from a low of $11.70 in 2007 to a high of $70 (as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 Report and Order). In FY 2012, the FCC expects to grant 14,300 vanity call signs, bringing in $214,500 from the vanity call sign program, and looks to recover a total of $339,844,000 in fees from all the Services that it regulates. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/vanity-call-sign-fee-to-go-up-80-cents>.

==> ARRL RECOGNIZES: VIC POOR, W5SMM, RECEIVES ARRL PRESIDENT'S AWARD

On July 9, Victor (Vic) Poor, W5SMM, of Melbourne, Florida, was awarded the ARRL President's Award at the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society's (PCARS) monthly meeting that was attended by nearly 100 hams and non-hams, many from out of town. There have been only a handful of recipients of this prestigious award.

Poor -- an ARRL member -- developed an active interest in ham radio while still in high school and became W6JSO in 1951. He has also held the calls AH6AXV and K3NIO. He quickly developed an affinity for RTTY and later other digital modes of interest in Amateur Radio.

Poor has been instrumental in the development of many hardware and software innovations that are at the heart of modern day computing and communications technology, used both in Amateur Radio and in industry.

His early RTTY work focused on improving the designs of modulators, demodulators, and filters to improve the error rates achievable with RTTY in those days. This work continued into the development for schemes for simple message networking for amateur traffic before the availability of affordable PCs.

During the '70s and '80s, new digital technologies, including packet, AMTOR and lower-cost computers became available. These advances motivated Poor to further improve digital transmission networking techniques. This included APLINK, a robust automatic global store-and-forward system that led the ARRL to include the system for use in their National Traffic System (NTS).

With the advent of widely available Internet service and continued improvements in signal processing using PCs and dedicated signal processing chips, including PACTOR and WINMOR, in 1999 Poor organized a volunteer amateur development team to replace APLINK with a much more advanced amateur message forwarding system that integrates with the Internet and other mail systems, handles multiple destination addresses, and accepts data files of any format. The system is named Winlink 2000 (WL2K) and is maintained and managed by the Winlink Development Team (WDT). Poor remains the principal architect of the system. This system has blossomed today to a major amateur-supported emergency communications network used by ARES and many government agencies including MARS, federal, state, county and city agencies, and NGOs.

In his professional career Poor has been instrumental in the development of many products that we take for granted today. He credits his interest in ham radio as the driving force behind his success in the commercial arena.

The ARRL Board of Directors voted to create the President's Award in 2003. It is awarded to an ARRL member or members who "have shown long-term dedication to the goals and objectives of ARRL and Amateur Radio" and who have gone the extra mile to support individual League programs and goals. Nominations for the award come from ARRL directors and are approved by the ARRL President and the Executive Committee.

President Kay Craigie's accompanying letter stated, in part: "It is my pleasure and honor to confer upon you the ARRL President's Award....Your contributions to the development of digital communications systems in the Amateur Radio Service have significantly enhanced the ability of our radio service to provide assistance during disasters. Many other amateurs active in emergency communications attribute their own accomplishments to your mentoring....

"As a result of your long, distinguished career in Amateur Radio and communications technology, you have more than earned the appreciation that is represented by this award from the American Radio Relay League."

Steve Waterman, K4CJX, Assistant Director of the ARRL's Delta Division, summed up Poor's humility: "I could have added many more accomplishments to that list," said Steve. "The only thing Poor really wants to know about is if something doesn't work." -- Dan Fisher, AI4GK

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Lazing on a sunny afternoon <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1h1oRP7FfBw>" Cook, K7RA, reports: We currently seeing sunspot groups coming over our Sun's eastern horizon, but this week has been a quiet one, both in terms of sunspot and geomagnetic activity. The average daily sunspot numbers declined by 50 percent -- from 104.7 to 52.1 -- while the average daily solar flux was down nearly 45 points to 97.2. The latest solar flux forecast from

NOAA/USAF has flux values at 110 for July 26, 115 for July 27-28, then
120, 125 and 130 on July 29-31, 135 on August 1-2, 120 on August 3, 130
on August 4-6, 125 on August 7-8, down to 115 on August 9-11, and then
bottoming out around 90 on August 17. The predicted planetary A index
is 5 on July 26-27, then 15, 18, 15 and 10 on July 28-31, 5 on August
1-2, 10 on August 3-4, and 5 on August 5-18. There is the chance for
possible geomagnetic activity on August 19-20, raising the A index
values to 15 and 12, and then to 18 on August 24-25. Astronomy Magazine
has an article
<http://www.astronomy.com/%7E/link.aspx?_id=fd4b216b-fb6f-4a5e-9a60-f593af862
f38>
about a July 11 experiment in which a telescope was lifted by a
sounding rocket to take high definition photos of the Sun's corona at
extreme ultra-violet wavelengths. Look for more on the ARRL website on
Friday, July 27. For more information concerning radio propagation,
visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page
<http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad
Cookism" is brought to you by The Kinks's Sunny Afternoon
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunny_Afternoon>.

==> THE 2011 DXCC YEARBOOK NOW AVAILABLE

The 2011 ARRL DXCC Yearbook is now available to all ARRL members as a
supplement to the August digital edition of QST
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201208/index.php?startid=91rr>.
A printed copy of the Yearbook is also available for purchase in the
ARRL Online Store <http://www.arrl.org/shop/The-DXCC-Yearbook-2011/>.

Contents include:

- The Year in Review by Carl Smith, N4AA
- PJ2/W5MPC, October 10-15, 2010 by Mike Corey, KI1U
- ST0R Story by Antonio Gonzalez, EA5RM/ST0R
- Clinton B. DeSoto Challenge standings
- 2011 DXCC Annual List

==> + W1AW: W1AW'S ECHOLINK AND IRLP NODES BACK IN SERVICE

With the recent upgrades
<http://www.arrl.org/news/disruptions-possible-as-arrl-reconfigures-internet-
services>
to the ARRL's Internet system completed, the W1AW EchoLink Conference
Server W1AWBDCT and W1AW's IRLP Node 4292
<http://www.arrl.org/echolink-irlp> are now back in service. Amateurs
are able to once again listen to code practice transmissions and
digital bulletins via the W1AW EchoLink Conference Server.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- July 27 -- NCCC Sprint
- July 28-29 -- New Jersey QSO Party; RSGB IOTA Contest

- July 29 -- ARS Flight of the Bumblebees

Next week:

- August 3 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- August 4 -- TARA Grid Dip Shindig; European HF Championship
- August 4-5 -- ARRL UHF Contest
<http://www.arrl.org/news/the-bands-heat-up-for-the-2012-arrl-august-uhf-cont
est>;
North American QSO Party (CW); 10-10 International Summer Contest (SSB)
- August 5 -- RSGB RoPoCo CW; SARL HF Phone Contest
- August 7 -- ARS Spartan Sprint
- August 8 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- August 8-9 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- July 26-28 -- Central States VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/central-states-vhf-society-conference-1>,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- July 27-28 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-ham-holiday-2012>,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- July 27-29 -- ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rocky-mountain-division-convention-2>,
Bryce Canyon, Utah
- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>,
Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>,
Portland, Oregon
- August 10-12 -- RAC National Convention 2012
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/rac-convention-2012>, Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama

- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania
- September 14-15 -- W9DXCC Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/w9dxcc-convention-2>, Elk Grove Village,
Illinois
- September 15 -- ARRL Virginia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-section-convention-virginia-beach-hamf
est>,
Virginia Beach, Virginia
- September 22 -- ARRL Washington State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/washington-state-convention-36th-annual-spokane
-hamfest>,
Spokane Valley, Washington
- September 22-23 -- ARRL Illinois State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/illinois-state-convention-peoria-superfest-2012
>,
Peoria, Illinois
- September 28-29 -- SEDCO/W4DXCC VIII Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/sedco-w4dxcc-viii-convention>, Pigeon
Forge, Tennessee
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>,
Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>,
Melbourne, Florida

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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includes QST <http://www.arrl.org/qst>, Amateur Radio's most popular
and informative journal, delivered to your mailbox each month.

Subscribe to NCJ -- the National Contest Journal
<http://www.arrl.org/ncj>. Published bi-monthly, features articles by
top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#%21/edit-info-email_subscripti
ons>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store>
to enhance your enjoyment of Amateur Radio

Donate <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form> to the fund of your
choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

Click here <ads@arrl.org> to advertise in this newsletter.

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by editing their profile
<http://www.arrl.org/Users/edit#!/edit-info-email_subscriptions>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

175. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1824 - July 27 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-27 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120727090003.A893E33C2E@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 294
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1824 - July 27 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1824 with a release date of July 27 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The International Amateur Radio Union to vote on admitting two new members; Solar Cycle 24 heats up with a massive East coast VHF band opening; the London 2012 Olympics ham radio stations take to the air and four new ham radio CubeSats go skyward. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1824 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM POLITICS: IARU VOTING ON TWO PROPOSED NEW MEMBERS

The International Amateur Radio Union could have two new members before years end. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, is here with the details:

--

The Federation of Radio Sport of Azerbaijan or FRSA and the St. Vincent & Grenadine Amateur Radio Club are being proposed for membership in the International Amateur Radio Union.

The FRSA based in Baku. It so far has 50 members. The St. Vincent & Grenadine Amateur Radio Club has 21 members. Both have made their proposals through IARU Region 2 for membership.

The International Amateur Radio Union Calendar notes that the groups have declared that they can satisfy the requirements of the IARU Constitution and Bylaws. As such, their proposed membership has been put up to the vote by all International Amateur Radio Union member societies who have until November 1st to cast a ballot.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, near Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

Meantime, Jim Linton, VK3PC reports on two International Amateur Radio Union member certifications that have been rescinded. Linton says that despite a request, no proof has been provided that the former PNGARS of Papua New Guinea and BARTS in Burma or Myanmar still exist and have

been withdrawn from membership. (VK3PC)

**

VHF DX: BIG VHF OPENING ALONG THE EAST AND SOUTH CENTRAL USA

They are calling it one of the best VHF band openings since the late 1950's. This as hams along the Eastern seaboard and South-Central states report what appears to be both a tropospheric duct and some double-hop E layer skip that permitted QSO's from Vermont south to Tennessee and Texas on bands as high as 220 MHz on Tuesday, July 24th.

One interesting report came to us from Kevin Duplantis, W4KEV. He says that at about 5:30 pm EST in Knoxville, Tennessee that he was tuning around the FM broadcast band when he stopped on WRJK 106.7. That's when he heard a commercial that seemed out of place so he kept listening. It turned out that instead of WRJK he was hearing a station identifying as 106.7 the Wizard, Burlington, Vermont. After a number of fades happened and the Vermont station came back so strong that it totally wiping out the local Knoxville station that was only 15 miles away.

At that point W4KEV reports that he took to the 2 meter band where he made what he describes as a ton of contacts into the northeast and southeast and Canada. Some well over 1000 miles distant. He then switched to the 222 MHz band where he noted a definite E-skip opening that lasted a solid half hour. During this time he hears Canadian stations make contact with the lower parts of Alabama and Mississippi.

W4KEV hays that they do not get many tropo openings in his area so this was a thrill to say the least.

Meantime the dxworld.com Propagation Logger for 2 meters shows several likely record breaking contacts in sheer numbers if nothing else. By way of example, Mike Larsen, KC0CF in Stanhope, Iowa posted that he worked 32 stations from Florida to Virginia during the opening and his report was just one of many.

In all, it appears as if July 24th, 2012, is one that will go down in the VHF and UHF record books and operators world wide are hoping its only a precursor of what may be still soon to come in DX in the world above 50 MHz. (ARNewsline(tm), 2 Meter Prop Logger)

**

RADIOSPORTS: 2O12L AND 2O12W ON THE AIR TO COMMEMORATE THE LONDON OLYMPICS

The 2012 Summer Olympics are on the ham radio airwaves. On Wednesday, July 25th, two special event call signs were activated in the United Kingdom to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

As previously reported here on Newsline, 2O12L will operate from London, while 2O12W was to take to the ham bands from Barry in Wales.

Both stations will be on the air through August 12th for the games themselves and will continue operations through September 9th.

Updates on both operations will be available on the Twitter social networking site using the screen names of @2012L and @GW0ZANA respectively. Organizers hope to make 80,000 or more contacts during the time that 2O12L and 2O12W are on the air. (RSGB, Audio bite from YouTube)

**

BANDSHARING: THE AMERICAN UHF WOODPECKER STRIKES AGAIN

Its yakety-yak time on the 70 centimeter band near San Diego, California. This as a new radio system takes to the air on a military base. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennent, K6PZW, has the rest of the story:

--

Southern California's Fallbrook Amateur Radio Club reports that it recently began receiving a random ticking interference superimposed over weak incoming signals on its 440.600 MHz repeater inputs channel. Club members have tentatively located the signal as originating at the nearby Marine Corps Camp Pendleton.

It now appears as if the base has deployed a number of Enhanced Position Location Reporting System radios, or EPLRS devices that use the entire 420 to 450 MHz band in a spread spectrum mode. As hams share the 420 to 450 MHz band with the U.S. Government, and the government has priority its likely that the Fallbrook ham community will likely have to live with the problem until such time as the devices are turned off, if that ever occurs.

Hams are secondary users in the 420 to 450 MHz band and must accept any and all interference from those designated as primary users. Also, the amateur community must not in any way interfere with the operations of those assigned as primary users. In this case the United States military.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

According to the Southgate News, it's believed that at least two dozen EPLRS systems are slated for deployment or are already deployed across the continental United States as well as in Alaska and on Hawaii. (CGC, Southgate)

**

RADIO REGULATION: VANITY CALL SIGN FEE TO INCREASE BY 80 CENTS

The price of a Vanity ham radio callsign is going up. On July 20th the FCC announced that the cost of a set of amateur radio vanity call letters will increase 80 cents to $15 for a 10 year license term. That works out to 8 cents a year for anyone applying for or renewing a Vanity ham radio call. The new fee goes into affect 30 days after notice of the increase is published in the Federal Register. As we go to air, that publication is still pending. (FCC)

**

RADIO REGULATION: FCC PROPOSES RE-EVALUATING ITS FEE SYSTEM

The FCC wants to overhaul its entire regulatory fee system and is asking for public input on that effort through MD Docket 08-65.

According to the agency, extensive changes have occurred in the communications marketplace since its current system for assessing and collecting regulatory fees for all of the entities it regulates was enacted in 1994. Commissioner Robert McDowell calls the reform long overdue, adding that the agency should update its fee structure to ensure that they are levied not only in a fiscally prudent manner, but in a nondiscriminatory and competitively neutral way.

Comments to MD Docket 08-65 are due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. What impact such a re-evaluation might have on regulatory fees imposed on radio amateurs is impossible to assess at this time. (FCC, RW)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: 4 CUBSATS TAKE THEIR FIRST STEPTS TOWARD ORBIT

Japan's HTV-3 cargo vessel carrying five satellites blasted off on an H-IIB rocket to the International Space Station in the early hours of Saturday, July 21st. Onboard were four amateur radio CubeSats, along with a scientific satellite known as Raiko. The ham radio birds are the F-1, We-Wish, FitSat-1 and TechEdSat CubeSats.

By way of background The F-1 CubeSat carries a pair of Yaesu VX-3R handheld transceivers to provide communications on 145.980 MHz and 437.485 MHz FM using AX.25 packet radio data.

FITSAT-1 is an optical communications experiment that as previously reported will attempt to write Morse Code across the night sky, although only when in range of Japan. It will also transmit CW on 437.250 MHz, FM AX.25 data on 437.445 MHz and high speed data on 5840.00 MHz.

We-Wish will transmit on 437.505 MHz FM AX.25 data while TechEdSat will transmit on 437.465 MHz and will also communicate via the Iridium and Orbcomm satellite phone networks. This is a first for a CubeSat.

The CubeSats will remain on the International Space Station until September. Thats when they will be deployed to orbit by Japan astronaut Akihiko Hoshide, KE5DNI, using the ISS robot arm. And we

will have more ham radio space related news later on in this week's Amateur Radio Newsline report. (AMSAT)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W9AA Hamfesters Amateur Radio Club Net serving Bridgeview Illinois.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: ALASKA CB OPERATOR ISSUED PROPOSED $12500 FINE

The FCC has issued a $12,500 Notice of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture to Glenn S. Yamada, of Kenai, Alaska. This based on allegations that he essentially operated his C-B station in a manner that interfered with international aviation traffic. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

--

This story goes back to last January. Thats when the FCC received a complaint regarding interference to an authorized user on 21.964 MHz in the aeronautical band. According to the regulatory agency, the problem concerned a male subject talking and interfering with the control and monitoring of air traffic over the North Atlantic.

The FCC's High Frequency Direction Finding Center was called into action. On January 31, its operators observed a subject matching the details of the compliant transmitting on 21.965 MHz using the call sign 1600 Alaska. Of even more interest, the actual operating frequency was 27.025 better known as CB channel 6. Direction finding techniques placed the transmissions were coming from Kenai, Alaska. Subsequently, an agent from the FCC's Enforcement Bureau in Anchorage used direction finding techniques and found the source of the interfering signal to be coming from the residence of one Glenn S. Yamada.

The agent, accompanied by an officer from the Kenai Police Department, inspected Yamada's station on February 6th. At that time the agent found a non-certificated CB transmitter and a linear amplifier as part of Yamada's CB station. During questioning, Yamada admitted to the agent that the linear amplifier was capable of generating a power output level of 200 watts. The agent observed that the transmitter and the linear amplifier were connected to a transmission cable and ultimately to the directional antenna in the back of Yamada's residence. Yamada told the agent that this was his hobby setup and that he had been operating it for the last several weeks using the made up call of 1600 Alaska.

Now, in its July 14th finding authorizing the proposed $12,500 fine, the FCC says that Yamada apparently willfully and repeatedly violated Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934 and Sections 95.409(a) and 95.411(a)(1) and (b) of the FCC Rules. This by operating his CB radio without requisite Commission authorization. In simpler terms, it means that his station equipment was not FCC certified and he was running power in excess of the maximum allowed on the 11 meter band.

And when it issued the Notice of Apparent Liability, the regulatory agency also stated that given the public safety concerns of the violations that it was directed Yamada to submit a statement signed under penalty of perjury confirming whether he is still engaged in CB operations. If so, he is to state whether he is using a certified CB transmitter. Also, to certify that he has not attached any linear amplifiers to his CB station." Yamada must submit this statement to the FCC Office in Anchorage no later than August 17th. That's the same day when payment of the $12,500 Notice of Apparent Liability is also due.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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As is usual in these cases, Yamada was given the customary 30 days from issuance of the proposed fine to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC PROPOSES A PAIR OF BROADCAST TOWER RELATED FINES

The FCC levied two unrelated fines for tower violations. In the first action, the agency says that Equity Communications, licensee of WCMC AM located in Wildwood, New Jersey failed to enclose its tower in a locked fence.

In issuing the proposed $17,000 fine, the FCC noted that during an inspection in 2011, agents with the Philadelphia Enforcement Bureau determined the tower was in a residential neighborhood but what it called the remnants of a fence would not restrict access to it. At a later date when they re-inspected, the agents found the fence in the same condition. As such, the FCC has proposed a the to fine for the ongoing infraction.

The other case involves JMK Communications, which was fined $7,000 for not having a locked fence around the four-tower array for WPWC AM in Dumfries, Virginia. The FCC says that during an inspection in 2011, the Enforcement Bureau agents found no fencing around the base of one structure and only partial fencing around the base of the other three. There was also no perimeter fence around the property, according to the commission.

In this matter the FCC has proposed a $7,000 fine. It has also directed the licensee to submit a sworn statement telling the commission the broadcaster is now in compliance with the tower

regulations.

Both companies were given the customary 30 days from the date the Notices of Apparent Liability were issued to pay or file a response. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC LEVIES $55000 FINES TO UNLICENSED FLORIDA BROADCASTERS

The FCC issued a total of $55,000 in proposed fines to three men whom it says operated unlicensed broadcast station in the state of Florida. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is here with more:

--

In the first two cases, the regulatory agency alleges that Michael Downer and Damian Allen operated an unauthorized station together on the FM broadcast band in the city of Pompano Beach. According to the FCC, it used direction finding techniques to trace a signal to an FM transmitting antenna located atop the storage room of a commercial property.

The property owner told agents he rented the space to Downer and Allen. The owner called Downer and handed the phone to an agent. Shortly thereafter the other renter, Damian Allen, came and removed the equipment.

Now its tike to pay the piper. While the base fine for operating an unauthorized station is $10,000 per person, the FCC proposed a $20,000 fine for Downer and Allen each. This is because the commission had previously issued several Notices of Unlicensed Operation to both men for operating unlicensed stations from other Florida locations. The FCC says that the fact that they continued operating constitutes a deliberate disregard for the commission's rules.

In the third case, the commission has proposed a $15,000 fine against McArthur Bussey. This for operating an unlicensed station on 89.1 MHz in the city of Fort Lauderdale.

In this matter the agents not only traced the signal to a residence leased by Bussey but also found a fan page on Facebook ad for the illegal station and a picture that matched Bussey's Florida driver's license photo. The domain name for a website: www.891radio.net, was found to be registered to Bussey's residence.

Bussey's fine was also over the $10,000 base amount because the Miami Office of the Enforcement Bureau had previously issued a Notice of Unlicensed Operation to him for operating an unlicensed station on the same frequency from a different Florida location.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

All three have the customary 30 days from the date the fines were proposed to pay them or to file appeals. (FCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: PERMANENT AMATEUR STATION AT THE OLD BETHANY OHIO VOA RELAY STATION

Ohio's West Chester Amateur Radio Club has set up a working ham radio station at the closed down Voice of America relay station in Bethany Ohio. A temporary, single position has been activated in the VOA building. It is connected to a temporary trailer mounted beam antenna.

The Bethany site is located not far from Dayton Ohio. According to the club website, more funding is needed to complete the project. Information about this project can be found on-line at www.wc8voa.org. The history of the Voice of America Bethany Relay Station is at www.voamuseum.org. (KC9VZA)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: EMCOMM EAST POSTPONED TO 2013

The EmComm East emergency communications conference will not be held in 2012. According to an announcement from the Board of Directors for Monroe County ARES which hosts the event, they have decided to postpone EmComm East until the fall 2013 due to circumstances beyond their control..

According to their news release the group is running into a fist-full of scheduling conflicts that are making it difficult to plan an emergency communications conference that is of the same quality as the past conferences that they have hosted in years past. This is because they have several competing events in the region that will significantly take away from normal attendance. Also their call for programs did not have enough responses to fill all of the slots needed for this year's conference.

Monroe County New York ARES says that it will be announcing its plans for 2013 early next January. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact them by e-mail to info (at) emcommeast (dot) org or simply keep an eye on www.emcommeast.org for updates. (Monroe County ARES Inc.)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: LEGENDARY HAWAII VHF - UHF EXPERIMENTER LAID TO REST IN CALIFORNIA

Hawaii's legendary VHF/UHF experimenter Paul Lieb, KH6HME, has been laid to rest following a Catholic Mass on Saturday, July 21st. The service was attended by Lieb's family, friends, and several dozen ham radio operators. Many of the latter were members of California's San Bernardino Microwave Society of which Lieb was a long time member. A number of the radio amateurs drove many hours to attend the service.

According to his longtime friend Gordon West, WB6NOA, Lieb's ham radio activities played a major part in the memorial service. This included the front cover of a written remembrance program showing KH6HME at the Mona Loa beacon site door that was etched with visiting ham radio call signs. Below his name was his KH6HME call.

At the end of the Mass, each of the 6 candles surrounding Lieb were extinguished one-by-one. West says that this signified the end of an era when Paul would head for the 8200 foot site on the Mona Loa Volcano. From there he would switch from beacon mode to voice and CW , and complete the 2500 mile path on every VHF and UHF band from 6 meters up through 5 GHz .

KH6HME was buried at the Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Orange, California. West says that the very last line of the memorial program read - and we quote: "He will never be forgotten, and his beacon will continue to delight and amaze us all. 73 Paul. "

As reported last week, Paul Lieb, KH6HME passed away on Sunday night July 15th while visiting his sister and other relatives on the U.S. mainland. (WB6NOA)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: BAOFENG REPEATER TO THE EDGE OF SPACE

Spanish radio hams have used two low cost handheld FM transceivers to build a cross-band repeater which they then launched to the edge of space on a high altitude balloon. The radios used in the experiment were identified as Luther TL-44 but appear identical to the popular Baofeng UV-3R available on E-Bay from many online dealers world-wide at a cost of between $30 to $45 each.

The balloon flight lasted 2 hours 44 minutes during which 179 contacts were made. The furthest was over a distance of 670 km. You can read the entire story in electronically translated English at tinyurl.com/Baofeng-Repeater (G6UIM)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: KE5DAR TO BE ON-ORBIT DJ AUGUST 3

NASA astronaut Joe Acaba, KE5DAR, will play Disk Jockey in space on Friday, August 3rd. That's when he will do a live remote from the International Space Station as a part of a two-hour music and talk show to be streamed over Internet station Third Rock Radio.

Third Rock Radio is calling this outing "The Joe Show." It describes it as a blend of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and art.

For those not aware, Third Rock Radio is a project of Houston, Texas radio veterans. It is produced under a NASA Space Act Agreement with RFC Media.

The "Joe Show" is mainly aimed at younger Americans. It can be heard as an audio stream at ThirdRockRadio.net with Acaba's appearance beginning at 4 p.m. Eastern time, as we said, on Friday, August 3rd. (Third Rock Radio)

**

ON THE AIR: HONEYMOON TRIP TO MARITIUS IN SEPTEMBER

On the air, Alex Landi, IW5ELA, says that he will be on the air stroke 3B8 from hotel Le Cannonier on Maritius between September 6th and the 12th. This as a part of an extended honeymoon trip with his wife Michela that will take them through Corsica, Mongolia, Finland and Africa. From Maritius his operation will be on 20, 17, 15 and 12 meters using CW and SSB. Because of the nature of this trip all operation is holiday style. QSL via his home callsign either direct or via the bureau. And less we forget, the couple does have a web page. You can visit it on-line at honeymoonafrica2012 (dot) jimdo (dot) com. (OPDX)

**

ON THE AIR: WORK PROGRESSES ON NEW TRANS-ATLANTIC 2 METER BEACON

A new trans-Atlantic 2 meter propagation beacon is well on its way to becoming a reality. RSGB news reader Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, has the latest:

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Brian, WA1ZMS, is making the final preparations to ship the GB3WGI 144MHz transatlantic beacon transmitter over to Northern Ireland.

Thanks to the kind donation of antenna parts and clamps from G4CQM at Powabeam Antennas, beacon keeper Gordon, GI6ATZ, is in the process of building the antenna system for the beacon, and installing the emergency shutdown system. It is hoped to have the beacon up and running before the end of the year.

Im Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, in Nottingham.

--

Once the beacon is placed into service it will act as a marker to tell hams in the America's when a 2 meter path is open to the UK and possibly beyond. (GB2RS)

**

DX

In DX, F4EZG will be active between September 1st and the 3rd from Madagascar as 5R8VE. Operations will only be on 20 and 15 meters. QSL via F4EZG.

EA2BD will be active from Malta as 9H3BD until July 30th. His operations are low power on 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via his home EA2BD callsign.

WB6OJB is on the air from Botswana as A25JB through the end of July. He can be heard on 40 through 10 meters using mostly SSB with some CW. Again, QSL this station also direct to his WA6JOB home callsign.

JJ2NYT will be active as stroke FK from Grande Terre New Caladonia between July 29th and August 2nd. His operation will be on 40 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. Like the last two, QSL this one also via his home callsign.

G3SWH will activate the special callsign M0RSE on CW only over the weekend of August 18th and 19th. As you might expect, this is a CW only operation with QSOs to be uploaded to Logbookof the World immediately after the weekend operation concludes. Special QSLs will be available via the bureau or direct with Self Addressed Envelope and adequate return postage or even via the traditional bureau route.

Lastly, members of the Gemilang Amamteur Radio Club and the Mediterraneo DX Club will team-up to sponsor a DXpedition to Brunei. The multi-national team will be on the air as V-84-S-M-D between November 11th and the 23rd. Operations will be on 160 through 10 meters, including the 30, 17 and 12 meter bands. Modes to be supported are CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via IK2VUC, direct or via the bureau.

Above from various DX news sources

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THAT FINAL ITEMS: WIND FARMS MAY CONTRIBUTE TO CLIMATE WARMING

And finally this week, word that's what some call green power might not be so green after all. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, reprts:

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Research in the United States has shown that large wind turbine farms used to generate so-called green power might have a warming effect on the local climate, and there-by casting a shadow over the long-term sustainability of wind power.

Its been long believed that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels contribute to the so-called global warming effect. Some scientists believe this could lead to the melting of glaciers, sea level rise, crop failure and other devastating effects. So in an effort to cut such emissions, many nations are moving towards cleaner energy sources such as wind power.

Now, researchers at the State University of New York at Albany have analyzed over the period 2003 to 2011 the satellite data of areas around large wind farms in Texas, where four of the world's largest farms are located,. The results, published in the journal Nature Climate Change, showed a warming trend of up to 0.72 degrees Celsius per decade in areas over the farms. This as compared with nearby regions without the farms.

The study attributed this warming primarily to wind farms. It says that the temperature change could be due to the effects of the energy expelled by farms and the movement and turbulence generated by turbine rotors. It concluded that these changes, if spatially large enough, may have noticeable impacts on local to regional weather and climate. That said, the researchers say that more studies are needed at different locations and for longer periods, before any firm conclusions could be drawn.

Previous research in 2010 by other U.S. scientists found wind farms could make the nights warmer and days cooler in their immediate vicinity, but those effects could be minimized by changing turbines rotor design or by building the farms in areas with high natural climatic turbulence.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

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According to the Global Wind Energy Council in 2011 the world's wind farms had the capacity to produce 238 gigawatts of electricity at any one time. That was a 21 percent rise over 2010 and capacity and is expected to reach nearly 500 gigawatt by the end of 2016 as more, and bigger wind farms are built. More on this story is on-line at http://tinyurl.com/wind-farm-warming. (UK Telegraph, CS Monitor, Forbes, others)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur

Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

And this note to listeners who tune into Amateur Radio Newsline using our podcast audio feature. We have updated the links to the iTunes and RSS feed for our weekly report and you will need to re-subscribe in your podcast listening device using the new links available at www.arnewsline.org in the right column. Simply click on the link that affects you and perform the re-subscription process as required by each service. And thank you for being an important part of the Amateur Radio Newsline family.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in Southern Mississippi saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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176. FCC Daily Digest 07/31/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-07-31 15:46:07 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522782-2012.07.31-11.08.20--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 295
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 147 July 31, 2
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[...]

BRYAN D. BOYLE - H. R. JIM DIXON RE: AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE. Denied the P
etition. Action by: Deputy Chief, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunic
ations Bureau by LETTER. (DA No. 12-1226). WTB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/e
docs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1226A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1226A1.txt

[...]

177. PJ2 Contact Available

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-02 14:46:39 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120802135212.7C16620268@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 296
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

I received an email from Steve Hall, KD4RHO, a resident of Bellevue:

Art,

Don't know if any hams in NE are interested but I'm in Curacao
(PJ2/KD4RHO) until the end of September and try and check in on the
14.247 DX Net when I can. Only have a 20M dipole up and a FT-857 so
nothing fancy.

73
Steve

Give listen for Steve. The Caribbean is usually pretty strong in our
area.

73,
Art K0AIZ

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
---

178. The ARRL Letter for August 2, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-02 20:14:59 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120802192817.0B5112424F@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 297
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

August 2, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
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- Silent Key: Noted QST Author Steve Powlishen, K1FO (SK)
- + ARRL Recognizes: Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, Wins July QST Cover
Plaque Award
- + W1AW: W1AW's EchoLink and IRLP Nodes Back in Service
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS: ARRL SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION VICE DIRECTOR
ANDREA HARTLAGE, KG4IUM, ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION

ARRL Southeastern Division Vice Director Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM,
announced that she has resigned her position from the ARRL Board of
Directors, effective August 1. Hartlage -- who graduated from the
Georgia Institute of Technology in May -- will be moving to the
Washington, DC area to begin her career. The ARRL Articles of
Association require that a Director or Vice-Director must reside in the
Division. ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, has appointed James
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Millsap, WB4NWS, of Acworth, Georgia, to fill the vacancy, also effective August 1. Millsap, who has a background serving in the ARRL's Georgia Field Organization, currently serves as the ARRL Metro Atlanta District Emergency Coordinator.

"I want to make it clear that while I will no longer be a member of the Southeastern Division or a Board member, I plan to remain involved in ham radio and to continue serving the Amateur Radio community," Hartlage told Southeastern Division amateurs. "I will continue to be an active member of the Youth in the Second Century Committee, will continue to help the ARRL staff and Board in any way possible and look forward to becoming an active member of the Roanoke Division." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/james-millsap-wb4nws-appointed-vice-director-of-the-arrl-southeastern-division>.

==> + ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS: MINUTES OF 2012 SECOND MEETING NOW AVAILABLE

The ARRL Board of Directors met <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-board-plans-for-2014-centennial-celebration-at-2012-second-meeting> July 20-21 in Windsor, Connecticut for its 2012 Second Meeting. The Minutes of that meeting have now been posted <http://www.arrl.org/board-meetings> on the ARRL website.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of July -- takes a look at the 2012 Second Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors, an ARRL-sponsored webinar on hurricane response, an interview on ham radio with an astronaut, W1AW services, integration of the ARRL's LoTW program with CQ's WPX Award, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-48>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC DENIES PETITION SEEKING TO DESIGNATE NATIONWIDE EMERGENCY CALLING FREQUENCY

Saying that it believes that the Amateur Radio Service "allows flexibility to provide emergency communications in a way that takes into account channel availability and other local conditions," the FCC denied a Petition for Rulemaking on July 31 that sought to create a nationwide emergency calling frequency. The Petition -- filed by Bryan Boyle, WB0YLE, of Morrisville, Pennsylvania, and Jim Dixon, WB6NIL, of Alhambra, California -- called upon the FCC to designate 146.550 MHz as a "non-exclusive nationwide Amateur Radio Service emergency communications channel using FM wideband modulation." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-denies-petition-seeking-to-designate-nationwide-emergency-calling-frequency>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC UPHOLDS $7000 FORFEITURE ORDER TO CALIFORNIA CB OPERATOR

After a Merced, California man refused to let FCC investigators inspect his Citizens Band (CB) radio station, the FCC issued -- and upheld -- a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) for $7000 for not allowing the inspection. In issuing the NAL in March 2011, the FCC found that Ira Jones "apparently willfully and repeatedly" violated Section 303(n) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 95.426(a) of the Commission's rules (CB Rule 26) by failing to permit the inspection. Jones responded to the NAL, but the FCC upheld the forfeiture amount, saying that Jones' arguments were "irrelevant" and "unpersuasive." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-upholds-7000-forfeiture-order-to-california-cb-operator>.

==> + IVICA DACIC, YU1YU, ELECTED PRIME MINISTER OF SERBIA

Former Serbian Internal Affairs Minister Ivica Dacic, YU1YU <http://sps.org.rs/en/president/>, was elected as that country's newest Prime Minister on July 27. He succeeds Mirko Cvetkovic, who served as Serbia's Prime Minister from 2008-2012. Dacic is the leader of the Socialist Party of Serbia; from 2008 until his election as Prime Minister, he served as First Deputy Prime Minister, as well as Minister of Internal Affairs. In March 2012, Serbia became a candidate for membership in the European Union (EU <http://europa.eu/index_en.htm>).

Dacic is a member of the Amateur Radio Union of Serbia (SRS <http://www.yu1srs.org.rs/>), Serbia's IARU Member-Society and is said to be a member of his local club, YU1AAV <http://www.yu1fjk.org/yu1aav/>. The club was founded in 1978 as one of nine sections of the Novi Beograd (New Belgrade) Amateur Radio Club, YU1FJK <http://www.yu1fjk.org/yu1aav/>. According to its website, YU1AAV's primary goal has been to teach kids Morse code and Amateur Radio Direction Finding skills: "The 1990s brought us war, sanctions and social crises, but it also brought the good opportunity to move kids from the streets to learn ham radio. These were the years when the most kids from the neighborhood finished the course to get their basic ham license."

Boban Kojic, YT9A, told ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, that he was "happy that Ivica had become a ham and had passed his telegrapher's class. It is exciting that today's Prime Minister passed his second class exam in high school and has supported his club throughout the years. I first met Ivica at the 2005 Region 1 ARDF Championships in Tara, when I was SRS President. He helped to gather funds for the event, and together, we went from ministry to ministry in search of financial support. Ivica himself called the president of Bajina Bašta [a town located in the western mountains of Serbia where the opening ceremony would be held] and sought his assistance to fund the opening ceremony. Now this wasn't a small amount of money; it was money for the buses from Tara to Bajina Bašta and back, the renting of a stadium, cleaning and decorating, organization of about 15-20 minutes

of cultural and arts programs and cocktails for representatives of the national associations, as well as gift bags for each and every one of them."

In another e-mail to Sumner, Ivan Mastilovic, YU1LA, said that while he has not heard Dacic on the bands, "it is probably because his job takes all his free time. I have met him a few times with the SRS and he is a very nice young man with a real interest in Amateur Radio. No doubt that when his political career ends, he will be on the air more with a true love for ham radio. Now, as our Prime Minster, I'm sure he can help our ham radio community."

Prior to his election as Prime Minister, Dacic served as the spokesman for the Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS <http://sps.org.rs/en/>) from 1992-2000; he has served as president of the SPS since December 2006. He holds a degree in political science from the University of Belgrade. According to the SPS, Dacic, 46, is fluent in both Russian and English, is married and the father of two children. -- Thanks to ARRL MVP Associate Sanijela Zanovic for providing translating services

==> ON THE AIR: SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS IN LONDON AND WALES ON THE AIR FOR 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Two British special event call signs have been activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games: 2O12L from London, England and 2O12W from Barry, Wales. Both stations will be on the air for the duration of the Games -- July 25-August 12 -- and continuing through September 9. Organizers hope to make at least 80,000 contacts during the seven weeks that 2O12L and 2O12W are on the air. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/special-event-stations-in-london-and-wales-on-the-air-for-2012-olympic-and-paralympic-games>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "I'm up before the Sun <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6o1vuNQmIo>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average sunspot numbers this week were up more than 47 points to 99.3, while the average daily solar flux rose nearly 35 points to 131.7. The solar flux jumped from 139.8 on Tuesday, July 31 to 150.1 on Wednesday, August 1. The predicted solar flux is 155 on August 2-3, 150 on August 4, 145 on August 5-6, 140 on August 7, 135 on August 8-9, 140 and 130 on August 10-11, and back down to 120 on August 12-13. The solar flux is expected to drop below 100 on August 16-21. The predicted planetary A index is 10 and 8 on August 2-3, 5 on August 4-19, 8 on August 20-21, 5 on August 22-23, and then 8, 8, 12 and 8 on August 24-27. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, August 3. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by DEVO's Working in a Coal Mine <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devo>.

==> SILENT KEY: NOTED QST AUTHOR STEVE POWLISHEN, K1FO (SK)

Steve Powlishen, K1FO, of Madison, Connecticut, passed away July 28
due to complications from cancer. He was 60. An ARRL Life Member,
Powlishen was best known for his antenna designs for weak signal work.
His company, Lunar-Link Systems -- founded by Powlishen in 1994 --
manufactured and sold high-performance amplifiers that allowed more
amateurs to experience Earth-Moon-Earth (EME), often called
"Moonbounce," on 432 MHz. Powlishen -- who had 613 unique contacts on
70 cm EME -- penned more than 10 articles for QST, QEX and Ham Radio
Magazine on weak signal operation. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/noted-em-qst-em-author-steve-powlishen-k1fo-sk>.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: CARL LUETZELSCHWAB, K9LA, WINS JULY QST COVER
PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the July QST Cover Plaque award is Carl Luetzelschwab,
K9LA, for his article "Our Recent Solar Minimum and Sunspot Cycle 24
Progress." Congratulations Carl! The QST Cover Plaque award -- given
to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is
determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web
page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll> . Cast a ballot for your
favorite article in the August issue today.

==> + W1AW: W1AW'S ECHOLINK AND IRLP NODES BACK IN SERVICE

With the recent upgrades
<http://www.arrl.org/news/disruptions-possible-as-arrl-reconfigures-internet-
services>
to the ARRL's Internet system completed, the W1AW EchoLink Conference
Server W1AWBDCT and W1AW's IRLP Node 4292
<http://www.arrl.org/echolink-irlp> are now back in service. Amateurs
are able to once again listen to code practice transmissions and
digital bulletins via the W1AW EchoLink Conference Server.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- August 3 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- August 4 -- TARA Grid Dip Shindig; European HF Championship
- August 4-5 -- ARRL UHF Contest
<http://www.arrl.org/news/the-bands-heat-up-for-the-2012-arrl-august-uhf-cont
est>;
North American QSO Party (CW); 10-10 International Summer Contest (SSB)
- August 5 -- RSGB RoPoCo CW; SARL HF Phone Contest
- August 7 -- ARS Spartan Sprint
- August 8 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- August 8-9 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- August 10 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- August 11-12 -- Maryland-DC QSO Party; WAE DX Contest (CW)

- August 12 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; Feld Hell Sprint
- August 15 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- August 3-4 -- ARRL Texas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/texas-state-convention-austin-summerfest-2>, Austin, Texas
- August 3-5 -- Pacific Northwest DX Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/pacific-northwest-dx-convention-1>, Portland, Oregon
- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>, Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-hamfest>, Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina, Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>, Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>, New Kensington, Pennsylvania
- September 14-15 -- W9DXCC Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/w9dxcc-convention-2>, Elk Grove Village, Illinois
- September 15 -- ARRL Virginia Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-section-convention-virginia-beach-hamfest>, Virginia Beach, Virginia
- September 22 -- ARRL Washington State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/washington-state-convention-36th-annual-spokane-hamfest>, Spokane Valley, Washington
- September 22-23 -- ARRL Illinois State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/illinois-state-convention-peoria-superfest-2012>,

Peoria, Illinois
- September 28-29 -- SEDCO/W4DXCC VIII Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/sedco-w4dxcc-viii-convention>, Pigeon
Forge, Tennessee
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>,
Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>,
Melbourne, Florida

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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ons>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
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179. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1825 - August 3 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-03 09:00:18 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120803090002.7EBE033C91@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 298
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1825 - August 3 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1825 with a release date of August 3rd 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. The United States prepares for W-R-C 2015, The FCC denies a request to create an emergency calling channel on 2 meters; South Africa's hams wonder if a change in the nations regulatory structure will affect them; the European Union provides protection for hams in interference cases and a new 2 meter radio will soon be on its way to the International Space Station. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1825 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: A LOOK AT THE UPCOMING WRC 2015

A proposed permanent secondary allocation to the amateur service at or near 5 MHz is among agenda items for the World Radiocommunication Conference in 2015. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

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There are numerous items on the 2015 World Radiocommunications meeting agenda, as spelled out at the end of the recently concluded 2012 conference. One is the proposal for a possible new allocation to the amateur service on a secondary basis within the band 5.250 to 5.450 MHz. The International Amateur Radio Union has described such an allocation as being among the best for hams to use to provide around the clock emergency communications. So far, little in the way of objections has been heard in public.

According to the publication Radio World, it is the National Telecommunications and Information Administration that coordinates United States participation in the WRC conferences, doing so though a number of government departments and agencies are involved. According to N-T-I-A's website, the next conference will consider spectrum requirements for uses ranging from mobile service allocations for broadband to controlling unmanned aircraft from space.

These conferences are held by the International Telecommunication Union every few years to talk about international radio regulations. An FCC

advisory group will start to meet this month in preparation for the next one. The commission also has set up a website with information about WRC-15. While WRC-15 may seem far away, the planning for it is already getting underway.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

Another item of interest on the WRC 15 agenda is the feasibility of achieving a continuous reference time-scale. This either by the modification of coordinated universal time or some other method. (RW)

**

RADIO RULES: FCC DENIES PETITION ASKING FOR EMERGENCY CALLING FREQUENCY ON 2 METERS

Don't hold your breath waiting for the FCC to create a nationwide emergency calling frequency on 2 meters or any other Amateur Service band. That's because in denying a petition filed by Bryan Boyle, WB0YLE, of Morrisville, Pennsylvania, and Jim Dixon, WB6NIL, of Alhambra, California, the regulatory agency basically said that it's not necessary to have such a frequency cast in stone in the Part 97 rules. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

Bryan Boyle, WB0YLE, and Jim Dixon, WB6NIL had jointly filed a rule making request that asked the FCC to designate 146.55 MHz in the 2 meter band as a non-exclusive nationwide Amateur Radio Service emergency communications FM channel. In their petition the pair noted that other services, such as Citizens Band Radio, the Aviation Service and the Maritime Service have specific channels set aside for emergency communications. They argued that a similar designated channel in the Amateur Service could serve the same purpose.

But in its denial order dated July 31st the FCC claimed that Dixon and Boyle had not shown that a problem existed that would be addressed by designating a nationwide Amateur Service emergency calling frequency. To the contrary, the regulatory agency noted that the rules as they now stand provide the Amateur Service with what it calls the flexibility to provide emergency communications in a way that takes into account frequency availability and other local conditions.

The FCC observed that under the current Amateur Service rules that licensed operators can use multiple channels on the same or different amateur bands if needed for an event. They can also use multiple channels in the same band when multiple, but different events occur.

Translated into plain English, what the Commission is saying is that plenty of spectrum exists on 2 meters and other ham radio bands for

radio amateurs to provide emergency communications services. This, without the regulatory agency stating that a given frequency is designated for that purpose.

The agency also noted that the Boyle and Dixon proposal for the channel to be a non-exclusive nationwide is essentially no different from the way things are right now. This is because all Amateur Service frequencies are already shared and as such they may be used for providing emergency communications as the need arises. If hams in a given region or even nationwide want to create such designated channels on a voluntary basis that the Amateur Radio community already has the authority to do so.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, near Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

The bottom line. The FCC seems to be saying that if such a non-exclusive nationwide emergency calling frequency is needed, nothing in the Part 97 rules prevents the amateur community from voluntarily establishing such channels, be it on 2 meters or for that matter, any other Amateur Service band. (FCC)

**

RESTRUCTURING: WILL SOUTH AFRICAS NEW ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AMENDMENT BILL AFFECT AMATEUR RADIO

The South African Department of Communications is planning to create another body parallel to its Independent Communications Authority of South Africa or ICASA. This, to take over the singular duty of spectrum management.

This move comes as one of the many changes proposed in the Electronic Communications Amendment Bill of 2012. That is a measure that among other things calls for the establishment of a new Spectrum Management Agency within the portfolio of the Minister of Communications with the overall responsibility for the country's electromagnetic spectrum.

Along with the proposed law comes an explanatory document. It states that the Minister of Communications will act as the custodian of the spectrum on behalf of the people of South Africa as well as representing that nation before the International Telecommunications Union. This includes the allocation of the radio frequency spectrum to various radio communication services including amateur radio. The minister will also be responsible for all international spectrum matters pertaining to South Africa, including Regional and sub-Regional spectrum planning, all cases concerning international harmful interference and international frequency coordination.

The South Africa Radio League Council says that it is currently studying the draft bill to see what impact it might have on that

nations amateur radio service. South African radio amateurs are invited to send comments to the South Africa Radio League by August 15th. Please address them to secretary (at) sarl (dot) org (dot) za.

(SARL)

**

RADIO LAW: EUROPEAN UNION ACCEPTS EMC DIRECTIVE THAT PROTECTS HAMS

It appears as if ham radio operators in the European Union are safe from being treated as sources of massive radio frequency interference. On July 10th the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee of the European Parliament voted on a the new version of the an Electromagnetic Compatibility directive containing an amendment fostered by Germany's Deutscher Amateur Radio Club and the Political Relations Committee of the International Amateur Radio Union to protect the rights of radio amateurs. The original draft amendment to the definition of an "electromagnetic disturbance" could in the worst case have led to the signal of an amateur station being treated as an annoyance or intrusion. (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NEW 2 METER RADIO TO LAUNCH TO THE ISS

A new VHF ham radio system will soon be headed to the International Space Station. At the July 17 ARISS meeting Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, reported that his group is in the final stages of preparing the flight certification for of the replacement hardware for the degraded Ericsson 2 meter radio. That rig is part of the 2nd ISS amateur radio station that is located in the Columbus module.

According to Ransom, they had been hoping to launch of the equipment on flight 33-S on December 5th. Now however comes word that the new radio could be carried aloft ob flight 49-P that's slated to launch on November 1st. As such, Ransom's group is trying to finish the certification process in time for this earlier flight option.

The degraded Ericsson VHF radio may be returned on flight 32-S in October. The team is very interested in trying to determine what the problem has been with this particular piece of gear. And we will have more space related ham radio news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (ARISS)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WA3PBD repeater serving Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENSED OREGON OPERATOR FINED $15000

The FCC has issued a Notice of Apparent Liability in the amout of $15,000 to Joshua McMurchie of Prineville, Oregon. This for his alleged operation of a an unauthorized station on 97.9 MHz.

Back in 2011 agents from the FCC's Portland Office of its Enforcement Bureau responded to a complaint and traced the signal to McMurchie's home. Local law enforcement officers accompanied the FCC agents and left a Notice of Unlicensed Operation with another resident of the house and also mailed a notice as a backup. According to the FCC McMurchie signed for the latter notice in October 2011,

This past May, the FCC's Portland Enforcement Bureau received another complaint about an illegal station on 97.9 MHz. Both the FCC and Prineville Police officers went to his home, were granted admittance and found a transmitter broadcasting at that location. The FCC says that McMurchie admitted he operated the station and offered to surrender his equipment to the agents.

Now the FCC has issued a proposed penalty. In reaching its decision, the agency boted that the base fine for operating an illegal station is $10,000. However the commission fined McMurchie $15,000 because of his repeated violations. He too has the customary 30 days from receipt of the notice to pay the proposed fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC FINES CALIFORNIA CB OPERATOR $7000 FOR REFUSAL TO PERMIT STATION INSPECTION

The FCC has affirmed a $7000 fine issued to a California Citizens Radio operator. This after he refused to let the FCC inspect his station on several occasions. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, is here with the details:

--

This case dates back to March 19, 2010. That's when agents from the San Francisco FCC Office responded to a complaint of interference to the radio communication system equipment of the Merced County Fire Department. The agents then monitored the radio transmissions on frequency 27.165 MHz and used radio direction finding techniques to locate the source of the signal associated with the interference to a CB radio station operating from an Ira Jones' residence in Merced.

The agents approached Jones, identified themselves and told him about the interference. He denied being the source of the interference. They then asked to inspect Jones CB radio station but he refused.

The scenario was basically repeated on August 27th, 2010 when FCC agents, this time accompanied by officers of the Merced Police Department again visited Jones residence. Once again they were refused

admittance. On both occasions the FCC issue Jones written warning notices that he refused to accept.

On March 10, 2011, the San Francisco Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Monetary Forfeiture in the amount of $7,000 to Jones for failing to allow authorized FCC personnel to inspect his CB radio station. Jones responded to the N-A-L on March 30th. At that time he argued that he has not seen the complaints of the alleged the interference, that he did not receive the described warnings from the San Francisco agents, and that the agents did not produce valid identification cards.

But the FCC was not persuaded by any of Jones claims. On July 27th it affirmed the Forfeiture Order that gives Jones the customary 30 days to pay the $7000 fine or to file a further appeal.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

This is the second time in recent weeks that an 11 meter C-B operator has been fined in relation to radio gear that in some way was found to interfere with some form of public service communications. In this case the fine is based not on the interference caused by the C-B operators station but rather because he refused an order from the FCC to inspect it. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENSED OPERATOR CAUGHT ON VK REPEATER

An unlicensed operator who haunted an Australian repeater has been caught.

About three weeks ago several members of a radio club were contacted by what appeared to be a person operating with a phony call over the Redcliffe repeater. The operator was using the call sign VK4NFL. It did not take very long for that unidentified operator to get caught after authorities became involved.

Australia's Communications and Media Authority or A-C-M-A located the station and the matter is now in the hands of the Commonwealth legal authorities. It appears as though they do not waste very much time with unlicensed violators like this one, down-under. (WIA)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: HEATHKIT FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY

The Herald-Palladium newspaper says that the remnants of the famed Heathkit Company that once employed up to 1,800 people in St. Joseph Township, Michigan, is now on the auction block.

Owner Don Desrochers told the paper that the company, which was down to half a dozen employees at the end, defaulted on its lease and has filed for bankruptcy.

The organization was last known as Heathkit Educational Systems. Desrochers told the Herald-Palladium that this business was primarily dependant on federal and state funding for schools. Unfortunately, spending in education continued to drop and as such it was economically unfeasible to continue operating.

Founded in 1926 as an aircraft company, Heathkit shifted its focus to electronics after World War II when it bought surplus electronic parts to build kits. Heathkit left the kit business in 1992, focusing on educational materials, then announced it was getting back into the kit business in 2011. According to Desrochers it was losing the educational business faster than it could grow the electronics business, which was not sustainable.

(Published news reports)

**

RADIO TECHNOLOGY: AN FDMDV OPEN SOURCE 1400 BPS HF MODEM

David Rowe, VK5DGR, has made available open source software for a 1400 bps High Frequency FDMRV modem.

FDMDV stands for Frequency Division Multiplexed Digital Voice and is described as basically being a grouping of slow modems running in parallel. For example FDMDV has 14 carriers spaced 75 Hz apart, each running at 50 symbols a second. Due to multipath problems on the High Frequency bands this approach is claimed to work better than one carrier running at 700 symbols per second.

One of the applications of this modem technology will be Digital Voice since it offers fast sync, no multi-second training sequences, the ability to recover quickly after a fade, and no automatic re-transmit of "bad" packets.

Those interested in experimenting with HF digital voice using this technology can find further information and source code at tinyurl.com/hf-digital-voice-modem (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W1HEO RESEARCHING DXPEDITION COSTS

Dee Logan, W1HEO, is researching an article for the DX Magazine on the rising costs of DXpeditons and would like to hear from DXpeditioners for their comments on how to these ever increasing costs. Specific areas of interest include examples of specific costs and reasons for their larger amounts and suggestions for new sources or approaches to donations. If you can help please contact W1HEO by e-mail as soon as possible at deverelogan (at) gmail (dot) com (W1HEO)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: KA3HDO RETURNS TO AMSAT AS VP OF HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT

Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, has returned to AMSAT North America as Vice President for Human Spaceflight programs. Bauer stepped down from this position in May 2009 due to increasing work responsibilities at NASA. At the time he was the Chief Engineer for the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters.

Bauer retired from NASA in September 2011. but has been unable to fully support ARISS or other human spaceflight pursuits. This is due to a post-retirement one year "cooling off" period with NASA and with the International Space Agencies. That period ends in about a month.

The Vice President for Human Spaceflight is a position that is appointed by the AMSAT President. It provides leadership and guidance to the AMSAT President, BoD and executives on AMSAT's Human Spaceflight Operations and Development. (AMSAT)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA CANCELS 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The 2012 Radio Amateurs of Canada National Convention slated for the weekend of August 10th to the 12th has been cancelled. According to a press release, planners cite a low number of per-registrants as one of the reasons that the Canadian national Amateur Radio society has taken this action. The organizers will be immediately refunding any registrations received prior to cancellation and say they are already working on plans for their 2013 show. They also apologized to anyone who had arranged other vacation or travel plans around this convention. What little else is known about the cancellation can be found on-line at convention 2012 dot rac dot ca. (VA7AEJ, RAC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: WEST VIRGINIA'S TARA CLUB TO CELEBRATE 50th HAMFEST

And a word of congratulations to West Virginia's Tri-State Amateur Radio Association which will host its 50th annual hamfest from 8:30 a.m. to1 p.m. on August 11th. For ithis golden anniversary the event will be at the Life and Health Center of Christ Temple Church complex in the city of Huntington. This is a new location will offer unlimited free parking and a new, modern facility for the event. More about the group is on-line at www (dot) orgsites (dot) com/wv/taraclub. (TARA)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being

relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

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This note to listeners who tune into Amateur Radio Newsline using the podcast audio feature. We have updated the links to the iTunes and R-S-S feed for our weekly report and you will need to re-subscribe in your podcast listening device using the new links available at www.arnewsline.org in the right column. Simply click on the link that affects you and perform the re-subscription process as required by each service. And thank you for being an important part of the Amateur Radio Newsline family. (ARNewsline)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: EME CONFERENCE IN THE UK AUGUST 15 - 19

The 15th international EME conference hosted by the U-K Microwave Group is being held at Churchill College Cambridge between August 15th and 19th. It will also feature a star studded scientific cast. RSGB news reader Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, has the details:

--

This is the first time that this conference has been held in the UK, and it provides an opportunity to learn about this most technically challenging aspect of our great science based hobby. Earth-Moon-Earth communications has much in common with radio astronomy and deep space communications and, in addition to EME specific lectures, there will be presentations on both these subjects.

Two Nobel Physics Laureates from the world of Radio Astronomy will be present at the conference. Joe Taylor, K1JT is a keen EME enthusiast and will be presenting a paper on MAP65, while Professor Antony Hewish, FRS, is the speaker at the conference gala dinner on Saturday 18th.

With over 150 delegates and 60 partners from five continents already registered, this promises to be a great event.

I'm Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, and you are listening to the Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

More information on this event can be found on-line at www.eme2012.com. (GB2RS)

**

BEACON NEWS: THE KH6HME BEACONS ARE WELCOME TO STAY ON MONA LOA

The late Paul Lieb, KH6HME's beacon system located at the 8200 foot of Hawaii's Mona Loa Volcano in Hawaii is welcome by the site manager to continue to operate from that location.

According to Don Mussell, the KH6HME beacons are located in the building that was formerly under the control of KGMB-TV. Over the past few years that site was taken over by Hawaii Public Radio, and put under Mussell's supervision.

Mussell says that Hawaii Public Radio is happy to have the beacons located at the site and will leave the operation and maintenance to a ham radio club that also operates equipment inside the building. It will be up to them to decide if the beacon operation will continue. (Don Mussell, CGC)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NANO COAX CABLES AND THEIR USES

Nano technology is in the news once again. This time as a way to store energy. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, has more:

--

With all the research on nano-technology, perhaps we shouldn't be surprised that one of the latest involves coaxial cables on a nano-scale.

The main interest in the nano-coaxial cable is as an energy storage device due to the very high capacitance between the inner and outer conductor. A study conduced at Rice University found that the capacitance of the nano-cable is at least 10 times greater than would be predicted with classical electrostatics. The capacitance of the new nano-cable is up to 143 microfarads per centimeter-squared.

Study co-author Jun Lou notes that for energy storage, he can envision a large scale energy storage device consisting of millions of tiny nano-cables side by side in large areas. Lou also says that this cable might also be used as a transmission line for radio frequency signals at the nano scale. This could be useful as a fundamental building block in micro and nano sized electromechanical systems like lab-on-a-chip devices.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW.

--

It appears as if nano technology has come a long way since we began reporting on it only a few short years ago. (TV Technology)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ILLW REGISTRATION STILL OPEN FOR AUGUST 18 - 19 EVENT

With 315 registrations so far, the 15th annual International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend is headed for what right now appears to be yet

another record year for participation.

So far, Australia has the most registrations followed by the United States and Germany. With many other nations represented. Among the new ones are Austria, Chile, China, Curacao, Gibraltar, Honduras, Island of Man, Italy, Northern Ireland, Romania, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

With only a few weeks to go, there is still time to register a lighthouse or lightship for the 48 hour fun event slated for August 18th and 19th. To do this, simply visit illw.net for online registration and guidelines of the popular unique event. (VK3PC)

**

RADIOSPORTS: CQ TO REVAMP PUBLICATION SCHEDULE FOR CONTEST RESULTS

In contesting news, CQ magazine says that it will embark on a major reorganization of its editorial content in order to publish contest results significantly sooner. According to Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, on average, contest results will appear four months sooner than at present.

This change has been made possible by the fact that the majority of contest entrants submit their logs online along with advancements in technology for log-checking. Also assisting are the earlier log submission deadlines announced last month and advances in publishing technology.

The new schedule will be phased in over the course of 2013 and will be fully in place by 2014. A complete calendar of contest results issues for 2013 and 2014 will be posted on the CQ website at www dot cq-amateur-radio dot com. (CQ)

**

DX

In DX, Bill Moore NC1L, the ARRL Awards Branch Manager has announced that the 2012 H44UD operation from the Solomon Islands has been approved for DXCC credit. Cards for that operation may now be submitted.

On the air, listen out for HA9MDN who will be active stroke 9A from Vir Island. Operations will be on SSB, RTTY and SSTV. QSL to HA9MDN via the Bureau or using eQSL.

JH1DVG will be active as V63JX from Pohnpei Island between November 23-26th. His operations will be on 40 through 10 meters using various modes. QSL to his home callsign, direct or via the bureau.

Three operators will be on the air from Praslin Island between October 21st and November 4th. Their activity will be holiday style on 80 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL S79LC via I5IHE direct

only. QSL S79YY via I5OYY direct with an SASE or electronically using Logbook of the World. QSL's for S79XX go via IK5RUN, also direct with an SASE or using Logbook of the World.

Lastly, JA1XGI will be active as V63XG from Yap Island between December 5th to the 12th. His activity will probably be on 20 through 6 meters using mainly CW, with some SSB and Digital modes. QSO's will be uploaded to Logbook of the World as soon as possible. QSL via JA1XGI, direct or by the bureau.

Above from various DX sources

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: THE CASE OF THE VANISHED VENTURA CALIFORNIA UNLICENSED BRIADCAST STATION

And finally this week the story of the vanishing unlicensed broadcaster in the city of Ventura, California. Did he get scared off the air or did he simply get tired of playing a want-to-be broadcaster, Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has what we know about this interesting here and gone station:

--

Actually, what we know comes by way of Bob Gonsett, W6VR, and his CGC Communicator broadcast industry electronic newsletter. According to Bob, this past July 11th a complaint was filed with the FCC field office in Los Angeles concerning a n unlicensed station on 89.7 MHz reportedly operating from Channel Drive in the coastal city of Ventura, California. The station referred to itself as "KSSR... The People's Radio." It even had its own business card and Website.

But on July 25th the CGC Communicator received word that the station had vanished from the airwaves and has shut down their Website. In fact the last Web update was reported on July 24th and said - quote --"It was nice while it lasted."

According to the CGC Communicator, one of the people involved with the complaint isn't sure if the FCC paid the station a visit, or if the broadcaster saw his vehicle pass by in front of the alleged station location with an antenna in the middle of the vehicle roof and decided to shut it down before the FCC showed up. Either way, the unlicensed broadcaster is gone, at least for now.

So where does this all lead? According to the CGC Newsletter, for many the temptation to find such an unlicensed station is almost overwhelming. It is something most can do with simple direction finding equipment. That's fine if it can be done secretly. The problem with obvious and overt DFing is that the unlicensed station may shut down prematurely only to surface again elsewhere.

The CGC Communicator says that in dealing with unlicensed broadcasters that there is a definite advantage in letting the FCC handle these

cases from start to finish. The CGC Communicator notes that once a federal case is opened, the unlicensed station is more likely to stay off the air and that means a lot less work for everyone involved.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, not all that far from Ventura in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

By the way, according to Bob Gonsett, W6VR, the real KSSR-FM is located in the city of Santa Rosa, California and operates on 95.9 MHz. (CGC Communicator)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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180. FCC Daily Digest 08/08/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-08 17:06:08 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-522976-2012.08.08-12.30.12--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 299
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 153 August 08,
2012

[...]

MARIO VESNAVER. Denied the Petition for Reconsideration. Action by: Dep
uty Chief, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau by LETTER.
(DA No. 12-1281). WTB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/
DA-12-1281A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1281A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1281A1.txt

[...]

181. The ARRL Letter for August 9, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-09 19:45:28 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120809184933.4A73224B7D@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 300
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

August 9, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- + On the Air: ITU Assigns New Prefix for Niue: E6A-E6Z
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- Solar Update
- New QuickStats Poll Now Available on ARRL Website
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ON THE AIR: PERSEIDS SHOULD BE FUN FOR METEOR SCATTER ENTHUSIASTS
AND VIEWERS ALIKE

On the night of Saturday, August 11 and well into the next day, Earth
will make its annual passage through the bulk of the debris shed by a
comet known as Swift-Tuttle
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/109P/Swift-Tuttle>. Much of the debris is
composed of dust-sized grains, but when these fragments come plunging
into our atmosphere they can create a dazzling meteor display. Not only
are the meteors fascinating to watch, they also leave short-lived
streams of ionized gas in their wake. As hams have known for years,
these meteor trails are excellent reflectors of radio waves. The
Swift-Tuttle meteor showers are known as the Perseids
```

<http://www.amsmeteors.org/2012/08/viewing-the-2012-perseid-meteor-shower/>
because they appear to come from a point in the sky that lies within
the constellation Perseus.

This year's Perseid meteor shower occurs when the Moon is at a
waning crescent phase, which means bright moonlight won't diminish the
number of visible meteors. According to Spacedex.com
<http://www.spacedex.com/perseids/>, the lack of bright moonlight means
that the fainter meteors should not be concealed from view: "It is
advisable to observe the meteor shower during the predawn hours on the
mornings of August 11, 12 and 13. With up to 60-100 meteors per hour
predicted, observers may catch plenty of bright meteors streaking along
in the light of the Moon." As an added treat, the Moon will be sweeping
past Venus and Jupiter in the eastern predawn sky.

While the meteors are certainly bright, they are typically not much
larger than a grain of sand; however, as they travel at immense speeds,
these tiny particles put on an impressive show. Due to the way the
comet's orbit is tilted, dust from the Swift-Tuttle falls on Earth's
northern hemisphere. Unfortunately, this leads to extremely low
visibility for those in Australia, New Zealand and portions of South
America.

Amateur Radio and the Perseids

If you own a 6 or 2 meter SSB/CW transceiver, you can get in on the
action, bouncing your signals off Perseid meteor trails and making
quick meteor scatter <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meteor_scatter>
contacts over hundreds of miles, and possibly even as much as 1200
miles. Meteor scatter operation is particularly easy on 6 meters where
100 W and an omnidirectional antenna will do the job. On 2 meters, a
directional antenna (such as a multielement Yagi) usually yields better
results.

Some meteor scatter operators prefer to use SSB, making rapid
exchanges of signal reports and grid squares. In recent years, digital
meteor scatter has been increasing in popularity. With the free
sound-card-based WSJT <http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/>
software suite by Joe Taylor, K1JT, it is possible to make digital
meteor scatter contacts almost any time of the day or night, not just
during annual showers. Most WSJT scatter operators use a mode known as
FSK441 and center their activities on calling frequencies 50.260 and
144.140 MHz. They also announce their availability by using Web sites,
such as N0UK's Ping Jockey Central
<http://www.pingjockey.net/cgi-bin/pingtalk>.

Watching the Perseids

To get the most enjoyment while watching for Perseids, find a dark spot
with an open sky view, bundle up thoroughly in blankets or a sleeping
bag and lie back in a reclining chair. Spacedex.com
<http://www.spacedex.com/perseids/> recommends that once you have

settled down at your observation spot, look approximately half way up the sky toward the northeast: "This way you can have the Perseids' radiant within your field of view. Looking directly up at the sky or into the radiant is not recommended since this is just the point in which they appear to come from. You are more likely to see a trail when looking slightly away from this point." Just gaze into the stars and be patient. Any light pollution will cut down on the numbers, as will the radiant's lower altitude earlier in the night. But the brightest few meteors shine right through light pollution, and the few that happen when the radiant is low are especially long, skimming the upper atmosphere and flying far across the sky.

Not all the meteors in the sky are Perseids. In addition to occasional random, sporadic meteors, the weaker Delta Aquarid shower <http://meteorshowersonline.com/showers/delta_aquarids.html> is also active during Perseid season. The Delta Aquarids are slower, often yellower and track away from a radiant point in eastern Aquarius. Weaker still are the Kappa Cygnids <http://www.astronomia.org/shower?la=en&s=KCG>, identifiable by their flight direction away from Cygnus in an altogether different part of the sky.

==> + MARS ROVER CURIOSITY SUCCESSFULLY LANDS ON RED PLANET

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) confirmed that the rover Curiosity, after a 36 week space flight, landed successfully on Mars at 10:32 PM PDT on August 5 (0532 UTC August 6). Built by JPL and launched on November 26, 2011, the 2000 pound machine features something on its wheels that radio amateurs are sure to appreciate: Morse code.

If you look carefully at Curiosity's wheels, you might notice that along with treads, there are square and rectangular holes that have an interesting pattern. According to JPL Rover Mechanical Engineering Team Manager Richard Rainen, these holes actually have a purpose: odometer markers. "We will be looking at the visual odometer markers that we have on the wheels," he explained in a video. "There are asymmetric patterns, actually holes, inside the wheels of the rover that will leave an imprint on the surface of Mars. We're going to be looking at these imprints and verifying that it has traversed the distance it expects to traverse. If it looks like it's not traversing, even though the wheels are going, that is an indication that the vehicle is getting stuck and it will stop and call back home." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/mars-rover-em-curiosity-em-successfully-lands-on-red-planet>.

==> + ON THE AIR: ITU ASSIGNS NEW PREFIX FOR NIUE: E6A-E6Z

On August 3, the ITU updated its Table of International Call Sign Series <http://www.itu.int/online/mms/glad/cga_callsign.sh?lng=E> to reflect a call sign change for Niue. The island will now have the entire E6 prefix block. Niue -- an island located approximately 1700 miles northeast of New Zealand -- is a self-governing island nation

that has been in free association with New Zealand since 1974. Prior to the change, the island used ZK2. According to the CIA World Factbook <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ne.html>, Niue is about 1.5 times the size of Washington, DC, and has a population of almost 1300 people.

==> ON THE AIR: EXPLORE THE UPPER REACHES OF THE AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM IN THE ARRL 10 GHZ AND UP CONTEST

If you enjoy the technical side of Amateur Radio and being on the cutting edge, you might want to take a look at the microwave bands. The weekends of August 18-19 and September 15-16 give you a perfect chance to explore this portion of the radio spectrum with the 2012 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest. The contest period for both weekends starts at 6 AM local time on Saturday and runs until midnight local time on Sunday. Points are awarded based on the distance of each QSO, and operating from several locations during the contest period is not only allowed, it's encouraged. According to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, most participants use SSB, although some choose to operate using CW. "Power levels are relatively low compared to HF," he explained. "Most stations only run several hundred milliwatts, and a station running just a few watts is considered a 'big gun.' Antennas are usually dishes, such as those used for receiving satellite TV." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/explore-the-upper-reaches-of-the-amateur-radio-spectrum-in-the-arrl-10-ghz-and-up-contest>.

==> + ON THE AIR: RAC ANNOUNCES NEW ONTARIO SECTION BOUNDARIES, ABBREVIATIONS

In March 2012, the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) announced that it would split its Ontario Section into four new Sections "to create a management model that better communicates with, and represents the interests of, the overall Ontario amateur population." The new Section boundaries go into effect as of September 1, 2012. On August 8, RAC Chief Field Services Officer Doug Mercer, VO1DTM/VO1DM, announced the new Section boundaries, names and abbreviations. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/rac-announces-new-ontario-section-boundaries-abbreviations>.

==> + FCC NEWS: VANITY CALL SIGN FEE TO INCREASE SEPTEMBER 4

On August 3, the FCC announced via a Final Rule in the Federal Register that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase 80 cents, from to $14.20 to $15. The new fees take effect 30 days after publication, making September 4, 2012, the first day the new fee is in effect. Earlier this year, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new 10 year term. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/vanity-call-sign-fee-to-increase-september-4>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC DENIES CALIFORNIA HAM'S PETITION REGARDING VANITY CALL SIGN

Two years after Marvin Gin, W6VM, passed away on January 13, 2010, his call sign became available in the FCC's vanity call sign system and eligible for reassignment to those radio amateurs who hold an Amateur Extra class license. According to the FCC <http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0808/DA-12-1281A1.pdf>,
Mario Vesnaver, W6EX, of Laguna Niguel, California, Steven Greathouse, AC6EA, of Akron, Ohio, and others "filed timely applications requesting modification of [their] amateur licenses to reflect call sign W6VM." Greathouse's application was randomly selected and granted on February 4, 2012.

According to paragraph 32 in a 2006 Report and Order (WT Docket 04-140 <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=6518531249>), whenever the FCC receives an application from more than one amateur on the same day requesting a vanity call sign, the FCC uses a lottery mechanism to select the first application to be processed. Via this method, Greathouse's application was the first one selected and he received W6VM.

Vesnaver filed a Petition for Reconsideration with the FCC, requesting that the Commission review its decision regarding its assignment of W6VM. "When an amateur is initially licensed, the Commission assigns the station the next available call sign based on the licensee's geographic region and license class [as affirmed in WT Docket 09-209 <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7021755180>]" the FCC stated in denying Vesnaver's Petition. "You argue that Mr Greathouse's application should not have been granted because, at the time he requested call sign W6VM, he lived in Ohio, which is in the sequential call sign system's 8th call sign district."

The FCC stated that when it adopted the rules for the vanity call sign system, it addressed whether a vanity call sign applicant should be limited to requesting only those call signs for the region where the licensee resides. The FCC chose not adopt such a restriction, noting in PR Docket 93-305 <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-94-343A1.pdf> that "'the applicant's choice of vanity call signs would be reduced to ten percent or less of the call signs that would otherwise be assignable to the station. A limitation based upon the person's place of residence, moreover, could easily be circumvented by using a mailing address in another call sign region.' Other than a call sign in Alaska, Hawaii, the Caribbean Insular Areas and the Pacific Insular areas, the licensee of an amateur station with a mailing address in the United States may apply for any available call sign corresponding to an appropriate license class."

Based upon its procedures, the FCC concluded that its assignment of W6VM was "proper" and denied Vesnaver's Petition.

==> + NCVEC HOLDS 2012 ANNUAL MEETING

Larry Pollock, NB5X, Chairman of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, presided over the NCVEC's 27th annual meeting, held via teleconference on July 20. The meeting offered an opportunity for representatives of the VECs to discuss issues facing the volunteer examination program and interact with FCC staff members. Representatives from 13 of the nation's 14 VECs took part in the teleconference. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, and ARRL VEC Assistant Manager Perry Green, WY1O, represented the ARRL VEC. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/ncvec-holds-2012-annual-meeting>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Sunrise, sunset <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLLEBAQLZ3Q>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers rose more than 20 points this week -- or about 20 percent -- to 119.4, while the average daily solar flux was up 3 points to 134.7. Geomagnetic activity was quiet, with unsettled conditions around August 2. The NOAA/USAF prediction has solar flux at 130 on August 9-10, 125 on August 11-13, then 115, 110, 105, 90 and 95 on August 14-18, back up to 100 on August 19-20, then 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140 and 145 on August 21-28, then 140 on August 29-31. The predicted planetary A index is 10 on August 9, 5 on August 10-18, 8 on August 19-20, and 5 on August 21-23, and 8 on August 24-25, and 12 on August 26. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, August 10. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Sunrise, Sunset from Fiddler on the Roof <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiddler_on_the_Roof>.

==> NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- How often do you use EchoLink or IRLP?
- What is your favorite HF band?
- How many Amateur Radio books do you own?
- Do you prefer to send paper QSLs to your DX contacts directly or via the QSL Bureau system?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the November 2012 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- August 10 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- August 11-12 -- Maryland-DC QSO Party; WAE DX Contest (CW)
- August 12 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; Feld Hell Sprint
- August 15 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next week:

- August 17 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- August 18-19 -- ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest (local time)
<http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up>; SARTG Worldwide RTTY Contest; North
American QSO Party (SSB)
- August 19 -- ARRL Rookie Roundup (RTTY)
<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>
- August 20 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- August 22 -- SKCC Sprint
- August 22-23 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- August 11 -- ARRL Ohio State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/ohio-state-convention>, Columbus, Ohio
- August 18 -- ARRL West Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-virginia-state-convention-2>,
Weston, West Virginia
- August 18-19 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-huntsville-ham
fest>,
Huntsville, Alabama
- August 19 -- ARRL Kansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/kansas-state-convention-2>, Salina,
Kansas
- August 24-26 -- ARRL New England Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-england-division-convention-1>,
Boxboro, Massachusetts
- August 26 -- ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/western-pennsylvania-section-convention-2>,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania
- September 14-15 -- W9DXCC Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/w9dxcc-convention-2>, Elk Grove Village,
Illinois
- September 15 -- ARRL Virginia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-section-convention-virginia-beach-hamf
est>,

Virginia Beach, Virginia
- September 22 -- ARRL Washington State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/washington-state-convention-36th-annual-spokane
-hamfest>,
Spokane Valley, Washington
- September 22-23 -- ARRL Illinois State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/illinois-state-convention-peoria-superfest-2012
>,
Peoria, Illinois
- September 28-29 -- SEDCO/W4DXCC VIII Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/sedco-w4dxcc-viii-convention>, Pigeon
Forge, Tennessee
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>,
Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>,
Melbourne, Florida
- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest
-computer-expo-1>,
Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes
t-computer-show%27>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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182. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1826 - August 10 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-10 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120810090003.8359F33C93@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 351
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1826 - August 10 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1826 with a release date of August 10 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Curiosity is now on Mars and there may be a way to hear its signal; hams respond to a massive power outage in India; B-P-L is once again a problem in the UK and guess who is thinking of running for Congress. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1826 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

ULTIMATE DX: LISTENING FOR THE MARS RECONNAISSANCE ORBITER AND LANDER

Want to try your hand at some truly out of this world DX listening? With the successful lading of NASA's rover Curiosity on Mars, some hams are thinking of trying to catch signals from the new rover directly or those from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter circling the Red Planet. Is it possible? Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW takes a look at the communications aspect of the mission:

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Thanks to some research by the Southgate News, it turns out the Curiosity rover transmits on frequencies around 401 MHz but the transponder on the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter or MRO has a CCSDS Forward Frequency in the 437 MHz Amateur Satellite Service band. This is because 435 to 438 MHz is shared with the Military and 432 to 438 MHz is also a Space Surveillance Radio Band. In fact, general space usage extends beyond that.

So how does it all work? Well the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter has a UHF transponder known as MELACOM that operates between 401 to 437 MHz. It also has a pair of patch antennas to communicate with any landed asset on Mars surface supporting the CCSDS Proximity-1 protocol. And with it all working the way it has throughout this mission, signals from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter are being received back on Earth.

While NASAs Deep Space Network has no problem in hearing the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, the question might be if a ham radio station with its simple equipment might be able to do the same. If you want to give it a try there are two papers from NASA that might be of assistance.

The first describes the operation of the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter. It can be found at tinyurl.com/mro-operations. The other is titled Mars Express and the NASA landers and rovers on Mars - Sustaining a backup relay in an interplanetary network. Its URL is tinyurl.com/space-communications. Both of these documents are in Adobe .PDF format.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I,m Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

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Oh, if you are successful in hearing either the lander or the orbiter please be sure to record any audio you hear along with the story of how you accomplished it. We will be happy to share it with our listeners, world wide. (Southgate, ARNewsline)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMS RESPOND TO MASSIVE INDIA POWER FAILURE

Back here on planet Earth, ham radio was called out after the world's worst blackout in recent times cut power to 700 million people in India on July 31st.

Jayu Bhide VU2JAU is the National Coordinator for Disaster Communication in India. He reports that the North-East grid failed due to a fault in the plant and 20 states were affected by the power failure.

VA2JAU said that hams in and around the affected areas provided emergency communications during the outage. He noted that all voice repeaters in the areas hit by the blackout remained in operation despite the heavy duty back-up power that was required.

Up to 20 of India's 28 states were plunged into darkness as suppliers failed to meet the growing demand caused by heavy demands. The blackout halted hundreds of trains, took out traffic lights were out and caused surgical procedures to be cancelled. Several miners were trapped underground when their elevators failed. The blackout raised concern about India's infrastructure. (VK3PC, VU2JAU)

**

RESCUE RADIO: GAREC 2012 PUTS OUT CALL FOR PAPERS

Delegates representing their amateur radio emergency communications services, national societies or clubs are being invited to submit proposals information papers and reports. This for the 8th Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference or GAREC which will be held November, 12 to 14th in Port Dickson, Malaysia.

Of primary interest will be information regarding the activities of any given group in regard to any emergency or disaster relief operations that it may have actively participated in from September of 2011

onwards.

The closing deadline of submission to the GAREC Secretariat is this coming September 31st. Documents should be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word format to secretariat (at) mygarec2012 (dot) com. (IARU)

**

RADIO RECOGNITION: UNESCO RECOGNIZES IRESC WITH SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE STATUS

A major coup for a relatively new ham radio emergency communications radio group. This as the United Nations Economic and Social Council known by the acronym UNESCO adopts the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to grant Special Consultative Status to the International Radio Emergency Support Coalition. A group better known by its initials of IRESC.

For those who may have never heard of it, the International Radio Emergency Support Coalition bills itself as a global coalition of volunteer communicators, with dedicated members spread around the world providing assistance to those in need at all times of day or night. The main objectives of IRESC are to foster efficient collaboration between radio amateurs, extending friendships across the world and providing international emergency communication in times of need when all else fail.

Currently, IRESC has members in at least 40 countries. Most are also affiliated with national organizations such as the International Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the United Kingdom's RAYNET, the Israel's Magen David Adom, local amateur radio clubs, and many other groups the world over.

The decision to grant the International Radio Emergency Support Coalition this status was made at the recently concluded UNESCO session held in July. More about this important milestone for the IRESC can be found on-line at www.irescintl.com. (9Z4FX)

**

THE BPL WAR: RSGB CONCERNED OVER PUSH TO LEGITIMIZE PLT

Broadband over Powerline called PLT in Europe is once again raising its noise generating head and that's of special concern to ham radio operators in the UK.

Now, the Radio Society of Great Britain has issued a statement expressing grave concern at what it calls the continuing headlong rush to legitimize high levels of emission from various Broadband over Powerline devices. This, in direct contravention of the Essential Requirements of the nations EMC Directive.

You can read the full statement on the RSGB website at www.rsgb.org. Simply click on Update on Draft PLT Standard. (RSGB)

**

RADIO POLITICS: RAC ANNOUNCES NEW STRUCTURE FOR ONTARIO

Radio Amateurs of Canada has announced that as of September 1st that its current Ontario Section will be replaced by four new Sections. These are Ontario North, Ontario East, Ontario South, and the Greater Toronto Area. A map depicting the new section boundries is available for viewing at tinyurl.com/ontario-new.

Meantime, word that the American Radio Relay League has already recognized the four new sections and they will be effective for the ARRL November Sweepstakes contest.

Radio Amateurs of Canada adds that several vendors of logging and contest software have also announced changes to coincide with the new make-up of the Ontario sections. Unfortunately, some of these will not available or effective until January of 2013. (RAC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: EUROPE YOUTH ON THE AIR AUGUST 19 To 26

Two European national amateur radio societies are teaming up to give young people a chance to find out what ham radio is all about first hand. Called Youngsters on the Air from Belgium and the Netherlands 2012, many young radio amateurs from nine different European countries will be participating in contesting, direction finding competitions, a Field Day like operation and much more.

Youngsters on the Air will be held the week of August 19th to the 26th at a location in Belgium adjacent to the Dutch border. The sponsors are Belgium's U-B-A Youth Commission and the Dutch national amateur radio socirty society VERON. For more information please contact Tommy Degrande, ON3TD, by e-mail to tommy (at) uba (dot) be or Lisa Leenders, PA2LS, to pa2ls (at) veron (dot) nl (ON5CFG)

**

BREAKING DX NEWS: CY9M ST. PAUL OPERATION SHUTS DOWN EARLY

The long anticipated CY9M St. Paul Island DXpedition was forced to go QRT earlier then expected at the request of their transport ships skipper due to a forecast of poor weather conditions. As a result they departed from St. Paul at about 1900 UTC on July 31st.

The good news is that in the short four and a half days of operating, the team made over 33,000 QSO's. All contacts will be verified electronically via Logbook of the World once the operators return home.

Those in need of paper cards should QSL to Tim Beaumont, M0URX. Meantime their logs are now available for viewing on ClubLog, and we will have more DX related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (OPDX)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W0BZN repeater serving Newton, Kansas.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO TECHNOLOGY: NXDN DIGITAL AUDIO SPEC TO BE MADE PUBLIC

Another Digital protocol will soon be available. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Davis, W2JKD, has more:

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The Southgate news reports that the technical specification for NXDN which is an FDMA digital voice technology supported by Icom and Kenwood, is being opened to the public domain. According to a press release the chair of the NXDN Forum has announced that the Forum Steering Committee has decided to open the NXDN technical standards to the telecommunications industry.

For the past 5 years both ICOM and Kenwood have been producing VHF/UHF mobiles, handhelds and repeaters to the NXDN standard. The equipment has a transmitted bandwidth of 4.0 kHz and is typically used in 6.25 kHz channel spacing systems. NXDN Digital products are deployed throughout the world in hundreds of thousands of professional radio applications.

The specification is currently available in response to an e-mail request but the NXDN Forum indicates it will be available for direct download later in the year. Interested companies can obtain the information for the NXDN technical standards by following the instructions on the forum web site at www.nxdn-forum.com/instructions

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD

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The NXDN Forum says that it will continue to accept new members after opening the technical specifications and will govern the NXDN specification and related interoperability testing and certification. (Southgate)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC AFFIRMS $11000 TOWER VIOLATION FINE

The FCC says Ely Radio, licensee of KWNA - AM of Winnemucca, Nevada must pay an $11,000 fine for various tower violations. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, is here with the details:

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The case began in 2008 when the San Francisco office of the Enforcement Bureau originally fined Ely Radio $13,000 because its red obstruction lights were out and the licensee had not notified the Federal Aviation Administration of the outage. The commission also found that Ely had apparently and repeatedly failed to notify the FCC about a change in ownership information for the tower.

In its appeal, Ely denied owning the tower and said it wasn't responsible for the structure's upkeep. As a result, the FCC sent a Letter of Inquiry to KWNA's former owner, Sheen Broadcasting Company. In its reply Sheen confirmed it's no longer a commission licensee. Sheen told the commission the company sold all of the equipment used to operate the station, including the tower, to Ely in 2006.

In its appeal, Ely urged the FCC to reverse its decision, arguing that it's really a tenant, not an owner. It is said was because it leases the station building and land from Sheen. But the commission did not find that argument credible, saying in its decision that at best, it appears that Ely and Sheen may have a continuing disagreement about how each of them interprets their sale agreement. That said the FCC says that it has determined that Ely is indeed the tower owner and that it's the only licensee using the structure. It also claims that Ely's personnel actually improperly extinguished the tower lights that resulted in the fine.

Because of Ely's past history of good compliance with commission rules, the agency lowered the original fine by $2,000 bringing the amount to $11,000. But it says Ely Radio must pay the fine.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

Ely Radio was given the customary 30 days to pay or to file a further appeal. (RW, FCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: DIGITAL ATV PARTY AUGUST 24 - 25

The World QSO Digital Amateur Television Party takes place on Friday August 24th and Saturday the 25th. This years event will involve California and Arizona in the United States, plus Australia and the British Amateur Television Club website in the U-K.

Here in North America, Bob Minnick W8ARZ and Lee Weitzel K0CCU, both in Arizona, will use the resources of linked ATV repeaters. Also, K0CCU has Skype video of very high quality and tested through the VK3RTV Digital A-T-V repeater.

The first such QSO Party organized by Peter Cossins VK3BFG occurred during the Centenary celebrations of Amateur Radio Victoria last year. (VK3PC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: NCDXF RECEIVES $4000 FUNDING BOOST

The Northern California DX Foundation is the recipient of a $4000 donation from the Northern California DX Club. This is said to be the largest donation ever received by the group from a club.

Of late more and more DX oriented clubs are making donations to the Northern California DX Foundation. The organization thoroughly analyzes the financial needs of planned DXpeditions and helps provide critical funding to operations high on the DX'ers Most Wanted List. Its been said that without support many DXpeditions would not be possible. (OPDX)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: FLORIDA RADIO CLUB SEEKS TO EXPAND MUSEUM EXHIBIT

The Florida-based West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Group Inc. has announced the start of what it calls an ambitious project to expand the WS4FSM exhibit at the South Florida Science Museum. This is an exhibit that it calls "Lasting Moments of First Excitement."

According to the group, the exhinit combines technology available over the Internet with the world wide communications offered by Amateur Radio. This, to lead to a new generation of creativity and scientific advancement.

To help raise funding for the expansion the group has launched a project on KickStarter to take its story to the world. You can more about it on-line at tinyurl.com/palm-beach-kickstarter.

The West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Group bills itself as the largest amateur radio club in Palm Beach County with a history that dates back to the 1930's. More about the group is on the World Wide Web at www.wpbarc.com (AJ4XM)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: YU1YU ELECTED PRIME MINISTER OF SEREBIA

Some names in the news. Former Serbian Internal Affairs Minister Ivica Dacic, YU1YU, was elected as that country's newest Prime Minister on July 27.

Dacic is the leader of the Socialist Party of Serbia. From 2008 until his election as Prime Minister he served as First Deputy Prime Minister, as well as Minister of Internal Affairs. In March 2012, Serbia became a candidate for membership in the European Union.

In the world of amateur radio Dacic is a member of the Amateur Radio Union of Serbia which is Serbia's IARU Member Society. He is said to be a member of his local club known by its call letters as YU1AAV.

Dacic succeeds Mirko Cvetkovic who served as Serbia's Prime Minister from 2008 to 2012. (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: WB4NWS REPLACES KG4IUM AS ARRL SOUTHEASTERN VICE DIRECTOR

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, has appointed James Millsap, WB4NWS, of Acworth, Georgia appointed to the position of ARRL Southeastern Division Vice Director, effective August 1st. This after former Vice Director Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, resigned because she has accepted a job outside of the Division.

In a message sent to members of the Southeastern Division, KG4IUM stated that while she is incredibly excited about her new career and her future, it has not come without cost. That because her move is to be outside of the division, that she is no longer eligible to serve as Vice Director.

Hartlages replacement, Jim Millsap began his ham radio career at age 12, operating 6 meter AM from Atlanta. Over the years he has served as Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Cherokee County Amateur Radio Emergency Service since 2002, was appointed ARRL Emergency Coordinator in 2010, and has been the District Emergency Coordinator for Metro Atlanta District since 2011. He was selected Georgia's "Ham Operator of The Year" in 2010 for his volunteer work in Georgia ARES. Millsap's appointment runs until noon January 1, 2014.

And for those of you who many not remember, Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, was the 2004 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE3LC APPOINTED TO CITIG 700

Norm Rashleigh VE3LC, has been appointed by Radio amateur of Canada to serve on the Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group or C-I-T-I-G 700 Mhz definition working group. This group will help to define the network architecture and technical interoperability requirements for a Nation wide broadband mobile data network operating in the 700 Mhz band. VE3LC is currently on the RAC Radio Advisory Board of Canada and has just completed a term as Vice President Industrial Liaison. (VO1DTM/VO1DM)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ECUADOR TO LAUNCH AN EDUCATIONAL CUBESAT LOADED WITH FIRSTS

An upcoming launch of 17 amateur radio satellites will also carry one with several firsts to orbit. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, reports:

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Among the birds to be lofted this November will be an innovative educational satellite built in Ecuador and known as NEE-01 Pegasus. This tiny 1 Unit CubeSat has a large fold-out solar array and carries a 902 MHz, 720 line Progressive Scan High Definition camera and associated TV transmitter. The latter will send video of the Earth to school students in Ecuador.

The NEE-01 Pegasus engineering team was led by Commander Ronnie Nader who was Ecuador's first astronaut. The satellite was featured in the July 15 edition of Ecuador's El Murcurio newspaper. That article in electronically translated English is on-line at tinyurl.com/Ecuador-in-Space

Im Dom Wilbanks, AE5DW.

--

Cubesats are tiny satellites that are economical to both build and carry to orbit making them attractive to institutions of learning as well as to the ham radio community. (ANS)

**

WORLDBEAT: NEW PORTUGAL REPEATER LIST AVAILABLE

A newly updated list of Portuguese analogue and digital repeaters dated July 30th is available for download. The listings are displayed in the Portugese language at tinyurl.com/brhdbld courtesy of Joao Costa, CT1FBF. (CT1FBF)

**

WORLDBEAT: UK NATIONAL RADIO CENTRE OPENS

The United Kingdom's National Radio Centre is now officially open This after Mr. Ed Vaizey, who is the Minister for Culture, Communications and the Creative Industries officially opened the National Radio Centre at Bletchley Park in Milton Keynes.

After a tour of the new building and unveiling a plaque in the entrance, Mr Vaizey stated that the Centre will do an enormous amount to spread the knowledge about the history of radio and its continuing importance in the 21st century.

The National Radio Centre is open Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11.00 to 16:30 local UK time. More details, and photographs of the event, can be found on-line at www.nationalradiocentre.com (GB2RS)

**

RADIO HISTORY: MARCONI CHELMSFORD SITE TO BE RE-DEVELOPED

The BBC reports that the Marconi New Street factory in the United Kingdom city of Chelmsford is to be redeveloped after being left derelict for several years.

Marconi New Street was the world's first purpose designed and built wireless factory. It was opened in June 1912 by radio pioneer Guillermo Marconi and where he carried out his research work and built a large electronics and telecommunications business. It also provided housing for many of those who were employed by Marconi.

According the BBC that business dissolved in 2006 and the building has stood empty since 2008. The new owners says that it wants to build homes, offices, shops and community facilities at the site, which covers about 10 acres near Chelmsford city center but also retain and refurbish the main 1912 Marconi building for office space.

You can read the entire story on-line at Read the BBC story at tinyurl.com/marconi-factory. (WIA News)

**

DX

In DX, the International Telecommunications Union has updated its Table of International Call Sign to reflect a call sign change for the island of Niue which will now have the entire E6 prefix block. Prior to the change the island used ZK2 callsign prefix.

On the air, word that a team of European operators will be active as D64K from the Comoros Islands through August 20th. Their license covers from 160 to 6 meters, so they hope to be active on all bands and modes and were even considering the possibility of working on 60 and 6 meters. They will have four stations on the air using Elecraft transceivers, amplifiers and at least two Spiderbeams and several vertical antennas. The QSL Manager for this operation is IV3DSH.

DJ7RJ will once again be active stroke FR from Reunion Island as between September 26th and October 21st. His operation will be on 160 through 10 meters using, CW and SSB, and he will pay special attention to the low bands for United States and Japan. QSL direct to his home callsign.

DG5LAC will be active stroke P from Amrum Island between August 11th and the 24th. His operation will be holiday style on 80 through 10 meters SSB. Log will be uploaded to Logbook of the World and eQSL when he returns home. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

A team of Saudi operators will activate Al-Dhahrah Island as 7Z7AB between October 5th to the 11th. More details and a Web page will be forthcoming. Meantime you can see their logo on QRZ.com.

Lastly, listen out for an all Y L DXpedition to be active as GB2YLS from Fair Isle between August 16th to the 22nd. Their activity will be on the HF bands using CW and SSB. They also plan to be operational as an entry in the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend scheduled for August 18th and 19th from the Fair Isle South Lighthouse. QSL via MM5YLO, either direct or via the bureau.

Above from various DX news sources

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THAT FINAL ITEM: JOE WALSH WB6ACU SAYS HE IS THINKING ABOUT RUNNING FOR CONGRESS

And finally this week, famed rock guitarist Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, has joked about running for political office since way back in 1980. That's when he ran a tongue in cheek campaign for the presidency. Now it appears as if Joe has decided to take politics more seriously, and according to a new radio interview, he could run for Congress. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, has the details:

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In a recent discussion aired over WASH-FM in Washington DC, famed rock guitarist Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, said, and we quote: "I think I would run seriously, and I think I would run for Congress."

Walsh went on to tell WASH that: "The root of the problem is that Congress is so dysfunctional. We're dead in the water until Congress gets to work and passes some new legislation to change things."

Walsh believes he could represent the concerns of real people better than politicians who live in a different world to the rest of the country. He said that he thinks that if you pay attention to Congress and vote for people from where we're all from, and if we can elect people who are not politicians that are from where we're from, that he thinks we can get something done.

Walsh added - and again we quote: "So I might run for Congress and see if I can stir up the hornets."

Meanwhile, WB6ACU is touring his new solo album "Analog Man" at intimate venues nationwide. And of coarse you can always hear his playing the opening theme at the beginning of each episode of Ham Nation on TWiT.tv.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

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For those interested in hearing all of what WB6ACU has to say, take your web browser to ultimateclassicrock.com/joe-walsh-to-run-for-congress. Then scroll down until you see the window containing the actual interview and click the arrow key to make it play.

(ultimateclassicrock.com)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, Twit-TV, and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

Before we go this note to those of you who still receive these newscasts over our 661-296-2407 dial in telephone line rater than downloading the MP3 file from our website. Of late we have noticed a major decline in the number of those calling into it and as such we are giving consideration to discontinuing it by years end. But before we do, we want to know how many people are actually using 661-296-2407. If you are one of those who call in each week on the phone, please send us a note telling us who you are and the reason you are using telephone access rather than simply downloading the newscast from the Internet.

As we just said, our address is the Amateur Radio Newsline, 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita, California, 91350. Or you can e-mail us at newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. We look forward to hearing from you.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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183. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-15 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1345010401@panix.com>
Source record: 352
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
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Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

184. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1827 - August 17 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-17 12:06:31 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120817090003.9932B33C91@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 353
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1827 - August 17 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1827 with a release date of August 17 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. Hams respond as flooding hits the Philippines; e-mail from a net saves a sailors life; a new source of interference to the H-F bands is discovered, WWVB to begin Phase Modulation test broadcasts on August 21st and Morse code is now on Mars. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1827 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RESCUE RADIO: HAMS RESPOND AS FLOODING HITS THE PHILIPPINES

The Philippine Amateur Radio Association known as PARA activated its Ham Emergency Radio Operations on two meters and 40 meters passing essential traffic during the widespread flooding that recently hit the capital city of Manila and surrounding areas. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has more:

--

Nearly two weeks of monsoon rains across the Philippines main island of Luzon peaked with a 48 hour deluge that battered Manila and surrounding regions on August 6th and 7th. This was the worst rain to hit Manila since Tropical Storm Ketsana killed 464 people in 2009. .

Eddie Valdez DU1EV, is the Chief Operating Officer of the Philippines Amateur Radio Association. He said that members of the Ham Emergency Radio Operations group were on air from Monday the 6th through Thursday the 9th as the flood waters rose and then receded.

Through the organizations website DU1EV had warned the ham radio community of the pending rains. He asked those radio amateurs involved in emergency communications to be prepared by monitoring the emergency frequencies of 7.095 MHz and 144.740 MHz.

DU1EV said the sun finally, but only partially, showed up on the Thursday, August 9th with the flood waters receding in most areas. He said tones of garbage litter roads, parks and drains in Manila and surrounding provinces.

A big clean-up is under way. In the worst affected areas like Marikina City, the Metro Manila Development Authority said it would take about a month to clean and clear the drainage canals.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

According to news media reports 66 people died in the torrential rain and officials estimated 300,000 fled their homes in the capital city of Manila. According to DU1EV, during the storm one of the volunteer radio operators had to leave his home after two days because of the intense flooding. (VK3PC, DU1EV)

**

RESCUE RADIO: E-MAIL FROM NET SAVES SAILOR IN DISTRESS

The Coast Guard with the aid of amateur radio coordinated the rescue of a mariner in distress approximately 287 miles northeast of Hilo, Hawaii on Friday, August 10th.

Duty officers at Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Honolulu received an e-mail report from a member of the Amigo Net. It said that a mariner aboard the Australian flagged sailing vessel the Q-Wave was disabled and requesting assistance.

According to news reports, the sailor reportedly had less than one liter of water and no food. The vessel's motor was disabled, it had lost its dingy, its communications equipment was unreliable and it had sustained a tear in its mainsail.

A Coast Guard HC-130 Hercules aircraft from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point was launched and located the disabled vessel. The crew dropped emergency supplies, including food, water and a VHF radio to the disabled sailboat. The Good Samaritan vessel Fifth Wife was in the area, overheard communications with the disabled vessel and responded to escort it back to Hilo. (Published news reports)

**

PRO-ACTIVE ENFORCEMENT: CALGARY CANADA FORMS COPPER THEFT UNIT

Anyone thinking of being a copper thief in Calgary Canada may want to think again. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Davis, W2JKD, has the reason why:

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Calgary Canada police have created a special unit to target copper wire thieves. This, as the number of thefts in that nation and world-wide continue to rise.

With the price of this metal on the upswing so are the number of crooks hoping to cash in. Offenders see the crime as extremely high reward as

they can easily steal copper and turn it around for cash. In other words there seems very low risk of getting caught.

But that changed in June after the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation was hit when $50,000 worth of copper wire was stolen from its transmitter site in southwest Calgary. Now police are watching very carefully for any signs that metal thieves may be about to strike.

I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

Calgary police hope that this new initiative will help deter copper thefts in that area. (WIA)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: EARLY WARNING QUAKE DETECTION DEMONSTRATED AT CAL TECH

Earthquake prediction may be on the verge of becoming a reality. This, following media reports that a pair of temblors centered near Yorba Linda, California were detected by a new earthquake warning system that's being developed at the California Institute of Technology.

A 4.5-magnitude quake struck one mile northeast from Yorba Linda at 11:23 p.m. Tuesday, August 7th. About ten hours later another a 4.4 magnitude shaker struck two miles from the same location.

News reports quote Douglas Given from the U.S. Geological Survey as saying that in the case of the first event Cal Tech received about nine to ten seconds warning before the strongest shaking was felt at the facility. In regard to the second quake the warning time was in the area of four seconds. Cal Tech is located in Pasadena California which is about 60 air miles from the two quakes epicenter.

Seismologists say that once the technology advances, they should be able to quickly determine a quake's magnitude and send that information out to the public before the strongest shaking waves reaches a given location. In its current incarnation, the early warning system sounds an audible alert, shows a countdown timer and estimates the intensity of an earthquake.

Experiments in quake detection have been going on for well over five decades but experts say that this new prototype system is the first to ever pick up quakes before the ground started shaking at its location. (Published news reports)

**

RADIO INTERFERENCE: NEW RADIO BURST HEARD ON THE HF BANDS

The IARU Monitoring System Region 1 newsletter reports on a new burst radio system that is affecting the amateur radio operations in the 80, 40, 20 and 15 meter bands.

Writing in the newsletter Wolfgang Hadel, DK2OM, says that he discovered a new burst system operating on 3.5, 7, 14 and 21 MHz, daily.

Hadel who is the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System Coordinator says that the system is active every full hour at plus 1, plus 2 and plus 3 minutes with 10.4 sec. bursts of 20 kHz width. Also, the signals appear to come from France.

DK2OM adds that audio frequency analysis seems to pin this as being similar to CODAR signals. Their real purpose is unknown but DK2OM says that perhaps this is a new kind of over the horizon radar or Ionosonde. As we go to air, Germany's Department of Post and Telecommunications has filed a complaint with its French counterpart. (IARU-R1)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NROL-36 CUBSAT LAUNCH DELAYED AGIN

The launch of the NROL-36 mission carrying several new amateur radio micro-satellites has once again been postponed. According to Spaceflight Now, the United Launch Alliance Atlas 5 rocket, its classified payload and the ham radio cubesats remain poised for liftoff at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Now, officials say that the twice delayed launch will likely take place on September 6th.

The flight was scrubbed during the initial countdown on August 2nd due to Range Instrumentation problems at the Vandenberg launch complex. Spaceflight Now says that engineers are on a path to resolution and hope to have corrective actions implemented, tested and certified by late August. The latest developments on this pending launch can be followed at www.spaceflightnow.com.

We will have more ham radio space related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (Spaceflightnow.com)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the KC3MM repeater serving Ransom, Pennsylvania.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: HAM IN WALES USES UNUSUAL APPROACH TO WIN TOWER FIGHT

A ham in Wales has won a tower dispute with the town he lives in by taking a very different approach. He accused the town's community council of bordering on racism and won an appeal to erect a fourth tower in his garden. We have more in this report:

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Michael Butler, GW0MNP, had his planning application for a 21 foot antenna mast rejected three times in under a year but he did not give up. In what may best be called an unprecedented three-pronged attack, Butler not only accused the city council of racism but also wrote letters accusing the Gazette newspaper of being "biased and sarcastic" and calling borough Mayor councilor Marlene Thomas "an idiot".

According to Wales dot com, Butler, of Green Meadow, sent a stinging letter to Cefn Cribwr Community Council last month. In it he claimed that their "prejudice" against his antenna mast installation ideas "bordered on racism".

In March, Bridgend County Borough Council planners denied Butler's request to erect the mast in his garden to further his amateur radio hobby. Those opposed to his installation compared the proposed antennae to "a flying bedstead". A bedstead is a British term for the metal framework that holds a mattress, pillows and the rest of the bedding.

But in the end, Butler's interesting approach succeeded. This when Welsh planning inspector Rebecca Phillips upheld his appeal against the council planners initial decision. Her decision means he can now keep the three towers already has and erect a fourth. The only proviso is the new tower is only at its full height for three hours a day.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, mulling this one over here in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

You can read the entire story of this fascinating tower appeal, including commentary by some of Butler's neighbors on-line at tinyurl.com/wales-antenna-win. (Wales.com, QRZ.com)

**

RADIO LAW: VANITY FEE GOES TO $15 ON SEPTEMBER 4

Mark September 4th as the day that getting a vanity call sign will go to $15 for a full 10 year term. On August 3, the previously approved increase of 80 cents was printed in the Federal Register. The new charge take effect 30 days after publication making September 4th the first day it is in effect. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC TELLS SPY SHOP TO STOP SELLING JAMMING DEVICES

A California electronics retailer has been ordered to stop selling products designed to jam radio communications equipment. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Clark, K8JAC, reports:

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The FCC has issued an official Citation and Order to Spy Shop of Sherman Oaks, California that also does business as IQ Tronics, Inc.,

SpyShopOne.com, and SpyGadgetsShop.com. This, for marketing cell phone, and Global Positioning System and other signal jamming devices in violation of Section 302(b) of the Communications Act, and Sections 2.803 and 15.201(b) of the Commission's rules.

In its July 18th Citation the FCC ordered that the Spy Shop should take immediate steps to come into compliance and to avoid any recurrence of this misconduct, including actions such as removing illegal signal jamming devices from displays and declining to sell signal jamming devices in the United States. The FCC said that if after receipt of the Citation, Spy Shop violates the Communications Act or the FCC Rules by marketing unauthorized radio frequency devices within the United States or its territories the Commission may impose monetary forfeitures of up to $16,000 for each such violation. In the case of a continuing violation, the Commission may impose monetary forfeitures of up to $16,000 for each day of such continuing violation up to a maximum forfeiture of $112,500 for any single act or failure to act. In addition, violations could also can result in seizure of equipment as well as criminal sanctions, including imprisonment.

Im Jeff Clark, K8JAC.

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As we go to air, a check of the company website shows that all of the gear that the FCC says is illegal to sell has been removed from the company website. (FCC)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: JIMMY FUND WALK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ham radio volunteers are needed in support of the Sunday, September 9th Jimmy Fund Walk in the greater Boston Massachusetts area. This event is on the Boston Marathon course but most of its activity is on the last half. All communications will be on 2 meter FM with volunteer communicators assigned to buses and first aid Stations along the route from 5 AM to 7 PM. Some half day assignments will also be available. If you wish to volunteer please contact Steve Schwarm by e-mail to w3eve (at) arrl (dot) net and be sure to put Jimmy Fund in the subject line, (W3EVE)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: HAM RADIO DELUXE UPDATED

HRD Software announces an updated release of Ham Radio Deluxe version 5.24.36. This update includes fixes for cross band contacts in Logbook and some PTT issues hams have run into with DM780.

Meanwhile the Ham Radio Deluxe development team continues work on HRD Version 6.0. The specific date release date will be announced in a future press release.

For those who are unfamiliar wit it, Ham Radio Deluxe or HRD is an integrated suite of software products for amateur radio. The five modules provide rig control, logging, digital communications, satellite tracking, and rotator control. More about it is on-line at www.ham-radio-deluxe.com (HRD)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: AUTHENTIC RADIO AUDIO NEEDED FOR DOCUMENTARY FILM

Some names in the news. Steve Wystrach who is working on the production of a documentary film about Robert Manry and his 1965 single-handed Atlantic crossing says that he is in seed of two pieces of audio to help complete the project. First he needs an authentic recording of a WWV time signal from that era. It needs to be legible, but it can have a bit of static or hash, just as long as it's clear enough to understand.

Steve also needs a recording of the sound of a Gibson Girl distress transmitter. Manry demonstrates this unit at one point in the film but the actual signal it produced was not receded with a local receiver.

For those not aware, the Gibson Girl was the predecessor of the modern E-L-T or Electronic Location Transmitter but sent out an S-O-S signal on the old International Distress Frequency of 500 KHz. Many of these hit the surplus market in the 1950's and 1960's and were a popular as a parts supply for hams and other radio experimenters of that era.

If you have either of these audio tracks please e-mail Steve Wystrach to info (at) robertmanryproject (dot) com. More information about the documentary film is on line at www.robertmanryproject.com/about-us/. (Steve Wystrach)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NEW RAC ONTARIO SECTION MANAGERS NAMED

With the break-up of Radio Amateurs of Canada's Ontario Section, there are now four newly named Section Managers. Allan Boyd, VE3AJB, has been named as Section Manager Ontario North. Michael Hickey, VE3IPC, takes the reins for Section Manager of Ontario East. The Section Manager for the Greater Toronto Area is George Duffield, VE3WKJ, with Ian Snow, VA3QT, as Section Manager Ontario South. These appointments are effective immediately, and will be merged into the normal election process at the end of a two year term. (RAC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: W9DXCC DX CONVENTION SEPT 14 - 25 IN ELK GROVE IL.

On the social scene, a reminder that the 60th annual W9DXCC DX Convention will be held September 14th to the 15th at the Holiday Inn in the Chicago suburb of Elk Grove, Illinois. W9DXCC is very much a fun gathering with presentations focused on DXing. Also available will be on site QSL card checking for CQ and ARRL awards. An optional Friday

afternoon class will help get aspiring DX'ers up to speed. For more information and on-line registration for this gathering please take your web browser to www.w9dxcc.com. (N7US, W9DXCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: WESTERN STATES VHF - UHF WEAK SIGNAL 75M NET

The Western States VHF/UHF Weak Signal 75 meter net meets every Sunday night from 5:30 to 6:30 pm Pacific time. This net is an informal opportunity to discuss recent operating activity, future plans for contests, rovers, and a wide variety of topics for the non repeater folks who inhabit the world above 50 MHz. The frequencies used are 3.920 MHz Lower Sideband region wide and 144.200 MHz Upper Sideband in Southern California. Anyone with an interest in weak signal communications is invited to take part. (VHF Reflector)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: WWVB PHASE MOD TEST STARTS AUGUST 21

The National Institute of Stands and Technology radio Station WWVB will be conducting a test of a phase-modulated broadcast format beginning at 1800 UTC on Tuesday, August 21st and ending at 1800 UTC on Friday, August 24th. During the test period the broadcast will be randomly switching between the normal WWVB broadcast and the new phase-modulated broadcast format.

According to WWVB Radio-controlled clocks and watches will not be affected by the test. However phase-locking 60 kHz timing and frequency standard receivers may lose lock during this period. However, they will restore during the normal broadcast period.

For more information, e-mail WWVB broadcast manager John Lowe at john.lowe (at) nist (dot) gov (CGC, John Lowe)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: PRINTABLE HF TRANSMITTER DEVELOPED

The British Broadcasting Corporation reports that a new science has been developed to permit high frequency radio transmitters for 13.560 MHz to be printed using electronic inks at a cost of that cost just a penny each.

The transmitters use Near Field Communication technology and are seen as a replacement for Quick Response Codes. The latter consists of black square dots arranged in a square pattern on a white background. The story of this new technology is on-line at tinyurl.com/printed-transmitter. (BBC, Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT: CHRISTIAN VISION LEAVING SOUTH AMERICA TARGETED SHORTWAVE

Yet another shortwave broadcaster is cutting back on over the air operations. This time it's the U-K based Christian Vision that has announced that it will cease its shortwave service to Latin America, likely by the time this newscast has gone to air.

According to its announcement, the main reason for abandoning this targeted shortwave operation is the shifting emphasis to media that reach younger listeners. It says it has about 413 affiliates in 23 countries and is using Internet, mobile and social platforms to increase consumption by those in the important 18 to 35 year-old demographic many of whom are not shortwave listeners.

In 2010 the Christian Vision closed two other shortwave sites. One was in Darwin, Australia, and had served audiences in Asia. The other was sited in Juelich, Germany, that aired Russian, Arabic and English programs.

Christian Vision is not completely abandoning the shortwave bands. It says that it will continue to use shortwave in India and parts of Africa, where audiences continue to be significant. RW

**

WORLDBEAT: TWO RADIO STATIONS LOOSE TRANSMITTERS DOWN UNDER

North Queensland, Australia radio stations Hot FM and 4RFM have both had their transmitters stolen. Southern Cross Austereo had its 91.3 MHz HOT FM transmitter stolen from its site at the Carborough Range. The 91.3 MHz transmitter taken consisted of a Crown Broadcast FM30 Exciter, PA1000 Power Amplifier, and PS1000 Power Supply.

The local community station 4RFM also had its transmitter stolen at the same time from a nearby site. Its gear was not described.

The thieves used a crow bar to get through the door of the 91.3 MHz site and an angle grinder through the door of the community radio location. Both thefts seem targeted as none of the two-way radio equipment was taken from either location

Matt Paton is a Southern Cross Austereo Engineer. He has asked that those involved in radio to keep a look out for the stolen equipment. Paton notes that the market for broadcast transmitters isn't massive in Australia. As such, if anybody gets offered a black market deal for such equipment could they please call the Moranbah Australia Police at 07 4941 6200. (WIA News)

**

WORLDBEAT: LONDON OLYMPIC OVER BUT COMMEMORATIVE STATION SETTING RECORDS

The summer 2012 Olympics may be over but operations at 2o12L, the flagship station celebrating the Olympic and Paralympic Games continues. Further information about the station can be found on the website at www.2o12L.com. (RSGB)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: 2012 OLYMPICS ON THE HAM-SATS

Meantime, another Olympic Special Event Station, 2o12W has been active on the amateur radio satellites working stations in the USA and across Europe. The 2o12W satellite station is being operated by Ken Eaton, GW1FKY, using a Kenwood TS-2000 feeding a 5-element dual-band Elk antenna mounted on a rotator on the portable cabin. For details of his operation please check out www.rsgb.org/operating/ and click on London Olympics 2012. (RSGB)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: RUSSIA LAUNCHES NON-HAM RS-40

A Russian research satellite called RS-40 carrying experiments built by students and research staff of the Siberian State Aerospace University was launched on July 28. Signals from the new bird have been heard on 435.365 MHz and were first reported by Maik Hermenau on the AMSAT-DL mailing list.

While the new satellite uses amateur 70 cm band downlinks it does not appear to include an amateur radio mission. In fact, as we go to air details of the downlink signaling protocol have not been made available. About the only thing certain is that systems aboard this 65 kilogram satellite includes testing advanced technological solutions to be incorporated into future missions. More about RS-40 is on-line at tinyurl.com/99ryrw8 (PE0SAT, ANS)

**

DX

In DX, preparations for the ZL9HR DXpedition to Campbell Island are on schedule for activation from November 28th to December 9th. The containers to carry all required equipment are currently being prepared and loaded, ready to be shipped out of Sydney around September 15th. More information is on-line at ZL9HR dot com.

IZ2WMW will be on the air stroke 9Afrom Krk Island between August 18th to the 25th. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. QSL via hs home callsign, direct or by the bureau.

W9XY will be active from the Bahamas as C6AXY between November 4th to the 9th. His operation will be holiday style on 40 through 10 meters

using mostly CW and SSB,with maybe some RTTY or PSK31. QSL via W9XY.

AA5UK will be operating stroke EA6 froma in the Balearic Islands between October 20th and the 31st. Activity will be holiday style on 80 though 6 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL direct via his home callsign, by the bureau or electronically using Logbook of the World or eQSL.

4F2KWT will be active as DX0N from the rare Bongao Island located in the province of Tawi-Tawi, Philippines, sometime in September. Look for more details o be forthcoming at www.qrz.com/db/DX0N

Lastly, a group of Polish radio amateurs will be operational as from Mauritania as 5T0SP between November 24th and December 10th, from Mauritania. Activity will be on all HF bands, 160-10 meters using CW, SSB an RTTY. There will be a focus on Japan and the Far East.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: MORSE CODE ON MARS

And finally this week, the story of Morse code on Mars. When the Mars rover Curiosity moves around the red planet it leaves a series on dots and dashes on the surface. These dots and dashes are a part of Curiosity's wheels and are made by square and rectangular imprints on the rovers treads.

According to Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Mars Rover Mechanical Engineering Team, these holes or imprints actually have a purpose as odometer markers. JPL Engineers are looking at the tread marks to verify that Curiosity has traversed the distance it expects.

So what pattern did JPL choose to put on Curiosity's wheels? The holes are in a pattern of short squares and longer rectangles as in the ancient and honorable Morse code. And what does it spell out in C-W? Simply the three letters JPL.

The full story of this Morse code on Mars is on-line at tinyurl.com/cw-on-mars. And less we forget, you can follow Curiosity on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MarsCuriosity. (Various sources)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, Twit TV and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at)arnewsline(dot)org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur

Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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185. 75 meter net seeking net control operators

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-20 12:34:37 UTC
From: night.watch-my-foot@116-901.ftn.wpusa.dyn
Message-ID: <k0rce6$j68$1@news.albasani.net>
Source record: 354

remove -my-foot to reply.
the Central Area night watch is a pilot project undertaken by a few
leaders of ARRL NTS in the NTS Central Area.
Its purpose is providing any and all communications services which can be
legally rendered via amateur radio, and as an immediately available
emergency resource during later prime time and night hours, serving
the Central United STates.

CANW begins operation at 0100 UTC daily on or about 3807.5 khz.
We encourage those with the capability to utilize their existing
cycle 4 cw nets, but acknowledge that not everybody with a need
knows the code. WE ask that any communication which must go via
relay be in the form of a formal radiogram.

Central ARea Night Watch needs net control volunteers to
fill 30 minute slots.
IF volunteers can be found we would like to maintain directed net ops
so as to hold the frequency open until at least 0400 UTC. We
are endeavoring to fill 30 minutes slots. IF you're located
in the midwest, and have 75 meter capabilities please consider
volunteering. If interested please anti-spam this article
and reply by email. Again, remove "my-foot" and the leading
dash to reply.

73 and thanks,

Richard Webb, NF5B

Manager, Central ARea Night Watch

186. FCC Daily Digest 08/21/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-21 16:57:06 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-523405-2012.08.21-12.21.14--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 355
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 162 August 21,
2012

[...]

USES AND CAPABILITIES OF AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS IN EMERGENCI
ES AND DISASTER RELIEF: REPORT TO CONGRESS PURSUANT TO SECTION 6414 OF THE
MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2012. (Dkt No. 12-91). Ac
tion by: Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Chief, Public Safet
y and Homeland Security Bureau. Adopted: 08/16/2012 by REPORT. (DA No. 12-
1342). WTB PSHSB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-
1342A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1342A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1342A1.txt

[...]

187. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-22 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1345615201@panix.com>
Source record: 356
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

188. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-22 06:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1345615500@panix.com>
Source record: 357
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

189. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1828 - August 24 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-24 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120824090003.CDB6B33C5E@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 358
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1828 - August 24 2012

Attention bulletin stations. Please note that this is an extended newscast and contains three breaks. Thank you.

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1828 with a release date of August 24 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. The FCC releases the text of its report to Congress on the role of amateur radio in emergency communications but provides no relief for hams living with deed restrictions or CC&R's. Also, hams in Quebec Canada get an implied exemption to that Provinces restrictive cellphone law and we take you to the Huntsville Hamfest where Erin King, AK4JG, receives the 2012 Young Ham of the Year Award. Please join with us on an extended Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1828 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RADIO LAW: FCC RELEASES TEXT OF ITS R&O IN IMPEDIMENTS TO HAM RADIO

The FCC has released its long awaited report to Congress into the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief operations. It also delves into the existence of impediments to this aspect of personal communications. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, has the details:

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Don't look for Congressional action to override private land use restrictions more commonly known as Conditions Covenants and Restrictions or CC&R's even if hams believe that these restrictions hamper them in times of emergencies. This is because in its report to the legislative body, the FCC says that, in its view, such restrictions do not constitute a significant impediment to ham radio or those in the United States amateur radio service.

In its report, the FCC noted that some of what it calls "commenters" recommend that CC&Rs be preempted if they prohibit antennas that are within certain limits. Others suggest that private land use restrictions on amateur antennas should be permitted only for safety considerations, and not for aesthetic reasons.

However, another group believes that it is not necessary to preempt private land use restrictions in order to promote amateur emergency

communications. This, given the ways that even amateurs subject to CC&Rs can communicate effectively and the nature of amateur emergency communications.

Moreover, while commenters suggest that private land use restrictions have become more common, the FCC's says that its own review of the record does not indicate that amateur operators are unable to find homes that are not subject to such restrictions. Therefore, at this time, the Commission does not see a compelling reason for it to revisit its previous determinations that preemption should not be expanded to CC&Rs.

In relation to other impediments, the Commission says that it has already preempted state and local regulations that do not reasonably accommodate amateur radio communications and do not represent the minimum practicable regulations to accomplish the local authority's legitimate purpose. The Commission says that it has also addressed regulations regarding possession and operation of amateur radio equipment while driving. These are state and local laws that prohibit cellular telephone and texting devices and are many times very broadly written as to catch hams, CB operators and even commercial radio users into a confusing maze of legal webs.

And as to any FCC rules that may be an impediment to the various technical aspects of enhanced - read that as digital amateur service emergency communications, the FCC believes that these matters can be considered through the Commission's rulemaking process. Consequently, it does not believe that Congressional action is necessary to address that issue either.

On the other side of the coin, the FCC notes that the ham radio community and the emergency response and disaster communications communities all agree that amateur radio can be of great value in emergency response situations. The regulatory agency notes that amateur radio carries with it a wide range of advantages that allow it to supplement other emergency communications activities during disasters. This says the FCC, has been demonstrated time and again in a wide variety of emergency and disaster situations including Hurricane Katrina.

But at this point the regulatory agency sort of contradicts itself regarding CC&R's, albeit it may not have noticed its own mistake.

Here, the FCC notes that amateur radio emergency communications require not only stations in a position to originate the emergency message, but also as an alternative to the commercial communications infrastructure impacted by the emergency. This alternative infrastructure is the network of amateur radio operators and their stations that relay messages, build and maintain repeater stations and repeater networks, operate High Frequency message networks to send messages greater distances than are practical with mobile or transportable transmitters, and develop new technologies to improve the reliability of these

networks. As such, the FCC contends that this value could potentially be increased, through cooperation among Department of Homeland Security, public safety, emergency management, and amateur radio emergency communications associations and groups to develop future training protocols.

But what the FCC fails or refuses to address is how radio amateurs living with CC&R's that restrict or outright forbid antennas can possibly pass along emergency traffic using the High Frequency bands. It's not likely that a long wire or dipole hidden in a hams attic is going to break through to any emergency net or pass traffic under adverse conditions. Operating effectively on the High Frequency bands requires decent outdoor antennas hung in the clear and this is something that the FCC fails to address in this section of its report.

Finally, the FCC recommends that the Department of Homeland Security work with state, local, and tribal authorities to develop disaster area access policies and qualifications for trained amateur operators who provide emergency communications support. The only question here is how you get the attention of these agencies, many of whom consider themselves autonomous are not interested in assistance from the public at large.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM in Reno.

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You can download and read the entire 15 page FCC accounting to Congress at tinyurl.com/FCC-To-Congress-Report. It's written pretty much in plain language and might well make an excellent program for radio clubs and on-air discussion nets. This is because it could easily set precedent in regulation of the United States Amateur Service for decades to come. (FCC)

**

THE BPL WAR: EU VS RSGB OVER BPL STANDARD

A battle appears to be brewing between the Radio Society of Great Britain and the chairman of the European Union Committee. This after the latter attacked the RSGB's call to arms in the battle against Powerline Transmission radio pollution. A technology better known as Broadband Over Powerline here in the United States. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP,has more:

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The chairman of the European Union committee on Powerline Networking has responded to the Radio Society of Great Britain's call to arms, claiming that every minute of filibustering pollutes the radio spectrum more.

According to the UK newspaper the Register, the Radio Society of Great Britain says that the new standard for broadband powerline

transmission, will water down existing requirements. This it says will open the way to greater spectrum pollution. As such, the RSGB has asked members to lobby their local representatives.

But Ronald Storrs, Chair of the committee defining the standard refutes that. He claims that it is the RSGB that is risking the airwaves with - and we quote" "their pointless protests and inflexible attitude."

The problem is that sending data signals over unshielded mains wiring, as Broadband Over Powerline transmissions does generates radio interference. And as the manufacturers push to increase speeds that interference is spreading into the frequencies used by other radio services. That, says the RSGB, is unacceptable.

But BPL or PLT equipment manufacturers have a totally different view. They say that the devices don't generate significant interference. Rather it's the mains wiring is the culprit. The manufacturers also contend that in many homes the wiring is sufficiently shielded that no interference is generated. As such they will continue to sell their devices legally.

Meantime UK telecommunications regulator Ofcom has taken a back seat in this matter. It says that it can't do anything as the devices themselves aren't radio transmitters so fall outside their purview. Ofcom says it's waiting for the new standard to be enacted which will give it some authority to regulate Broadband over Powerline technology.

So it appears that a proverbial line has been drawn in the sand between the UK ham radio community represented by the Radio Society of Great Britain and those who want to sell Broadband Over Powerline or PLT gear. And while the European Union's Storrs agrees that BPL is generating unacceptable interference, he says that every day there isn't an applicable standard in place more unrestricted gear is getting into the marketplace. He adds that the intransigence of United Kingdom's ham radio community isn't helping.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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According to Storrs, the manufacturers of this equipment are dead set against the proposed new standard. He also notes that the new standard already has the support of the International Amateur Radio Union and that this leaves the UK hams standing alone against the European Union. You can read the entire Register article on-line at tinyurl.com/UK-PLT-Fight (Southgate, The Register)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WB2QLP

repeater serving Naples, Florida.

(5 sec pause here)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: JOEL KLEINMAN, N1BKE, S-K

Ham radio has lost one of its most ardent supporters with the untimely passing of QST Managing Editor Joel Kleinman, N1BKE, who died in a house fire on Saturday, August 18th. Amateur Radio Newslines Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, has the details on this truly sad moment for all of us:

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Neighbors of the Kleinman family were first to discover the fire that claimed the life of Joel Kleinman and left his widow, Jayne, hospitalized.

According to several news accounts, the fire inside Kleinman's Meriden, Connecticut home was pushing out heavy smoke when neighbors discovered it and some of them raced into the burning dwelling. Reports say they first pulled out Kleinman's wife, Jayne, who was already unconscious and is hospitalized at MidState Medical Center. Investigators say the rescuers saved her life.

But news accounts quote the neighbors who were involved in the daring and dangerous action as saying the heavy smoke prevented them from reaching the second floor where Joel Kleinman was found by firefighters. The medical examiner says the 64-year-old Kleinman died of smoke inhalation and he ruled the death accidental.

Joel Kleinman had been the managing editor for the American Radio Relay League's QST magazine since 2001. But his history with the ARRL goes all the way back to 1976 when he was hired by the organization to target young people with science, and amateur satellites.

A graduate of the University of Montana with a journalism degree, Kleinman - who didn't have a ham license at the time - embraced the role.

It didn't take long for his ARRL bosses to recognize his skills and he quickly moved into the operations of QST where among the jobs he held was editorial assistant and features editor. By 1988, Kleinman was promoted to book team supervisor for ARRL's publications and other media. His return to QST as the top boss a few years later, clearly was a recognition by the ARRL management of his value to the monthly publication that reaches thousands of amateurs every month.

QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY called Kleinman: "...the quiet man behind the scenes, shouldering much of the burden that comes with creating 164 pages of new content every month. Joel set a high standard for all who may follow him." _ ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN issued a statement:

"With the passing of Joel Kleinman, N1BKE, we have lost not only a respected professional colleague, but also a friend." _ Kleinman was the former president of the Newington Amateur Radio League and was a member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association.

Funeral arrangements for Joel Kleinman were still pending as we were going to air.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

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Our hearts and prays go out to the Kleinman family on this very tragic loss.

(ARNewsline(tm), ARRL, Meriden Patch, Meriden Record-Journal)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC LOWERS FINE ISSUED TO FORT MEYERS UNLICENSED STATION

The FCC has lowered a fine imposed on an unlicensed broadcaster. This after he provided proof that the initial amount would prove a hardship that he could not afford to pay.

As previously reported, this past June 5th the Enforcement Bureau's Tampa Florida Office issued a $15,000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Albert R. Knighten, Jr. of Fort Meyers. This for his alleged operation of an unlicensed radio station.

In response to the proposed fine Knighten admitted to, and apologized for, the violation. He also urged cancellation or reduction of the proposed $15,000 forfeiture, asserting that his financial situation could not the permit payment of the fine that the FCC had levied against him.

After examining the financial documents provided by Knighten, the FCC found sufficient basis to reduce the forfeiture to $1,200. However, it also cautioned Knighten that a party's inability to pay is only one factor in its forfeiture calculation analysis. It told him that it had previously rejected inability to pay claims in cases of repeated or otherwise egregious violations. In closing it warned Knighten that future violations of this kind could result in significantly higher forfeitures that may not be reduced due to financial circumstances.

Knighten was given the customary 30 days from the August 21st date of the order to pay the reduced forfeiture. If he fails to do so the matter could be turned over to the Department of Justice for collection. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: LACK OF EAS GEAR BRINGS $10000 FINE

The license holder of a low-power FM in Mission, Texas will likely have to pay a $10,000 fine. This, for its admitted failure to install and maintain working Emergency Alert System or EAS equipment. Amateur Radio Newsline welcomes George Bowen, W2XBS, who has this report:

--

Intercity Christian Youth Program, Inc. is the licensee for low power station KCYP. Responding to a complaint, agents from the Enforcement Bureau's Houston Texas office inspected the station this past March. At that time the manager admitted to the agents the station had operated without EAS gear since the facility went on the air in 2007. KCYP also had no EAS logs to document that the facility had ever had such gear installed or that it had ever conducted the required weekly or monthly EAS tests.

The base fine for not having operational EAS gear is $8,000. The commission tacked on another $2,000 because it appears the station has not had working EAS gear for the better part of five years.

The station was 30 days to pay the fine or to file an appeal. KCYP must provide a sworn statement to the Houston office of the Enforcement Bureau certifying that it now has had E-A-S equipment installed.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im George Bowen, W2XBS, in Albany, New York.

--

According to the FCC, every broadcast station is part of the nationwide Emergency Alert System network and is categorized as a participating national EAS source. This in turn means that all stations must ensure their EAS encoders and decoders are installed and working properly. (FCC, RW)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENSED BROADCASTER BUSTED UNDER FLORIDA LAW

Romayne Davis, who local Florida police say operated an unlicensed radio station, is now free on bond. Police say Davis operated an illegal station out of a warehouse since March using a laptop running iTunes.

The investigation began in July when a listener to American Public Media's Classical South Florida WKCP FM in Miami complained that rap music was interfering with the legitimate signal on 89.7 MHz. Police recovered a computer, transmitter and other gear which they said was used to broadcast the unauthorized station on an adjacent frequency of 89.5 MHz.

Unlike the FCC which normally issues fines for unlicensed operations, under Florida's strict state law regarding unauthorized transmissions, Davis, who had turned himself into authorities, could face up to five years in prison for his unlicensed station operation. (RW, WPEC)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC SEEKS COMMENT ON REGULATORY FEES FOR INDUSTRIES IT OVERSEES

Public comments to the FCC about the best way to collect regulatory fees from the industries that the agency oversees are due in mid-September.

The agency notes a lot has changed in the telecommunications marketplace since its current system for assessing and collecting regulatory fees was enacted in 1994. Back then, commission regulation centered mostly on wired local and long distance. Since then the wireless industry exploded, shifting agency resources to that industry.

Complicating things further, telephone companies have entered the video market, cable operators are winning voice customers, satellite operators offer competitive radio, television and broadband services and wireless services abound.

Comments to MD Docket 12-201 are due September 12th. Payment of the existing fees for this year are due by September 13th. This commentary period does not apply to amateur radio or other personal radio services. (FCC, RW)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC SAYS YES TO TOWER IN WILDLIFE VS. TOWER CHALLENGE

In a case involving the possibility of bird collisions with towers, the FCC has decided in favor of both the tower and its owner American Tower Corporation. Amateur Radio Newsline's Skeeter Nash, reports:

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RADIO LAW: FCC SAYS YES TO TOWER IN WILDLIFE VS. TOWER CHALLENGE

In a case involving the possibility of bird collisions with towers, the FCC has decided in favor of both the tower and its owner, American Tower Corporation

Last April Michael Pearson of Marshall, Arkansas, raised several issues before the Commission related to a 314 foot structure registered to American Tower that was under construction in the area. American Tower suspended construction while the "Emergency Petition to Compel Compliance" order was reviewed.

In his petition to the FCC Pearson said that because the tower would be in wooded and pasture land area, and also within 4,000 feet of a wildlife management area, that the tower would negatively affect migratory birds and endangered species. This included mountain lions, bobcats and even skunks.

But in giving American Tower the green light to resume construction, the FCC said his complaint did not meet the standard for requesting environmental review. It said that Pearson didn't identify endangered

species that could be specifically affected by the tower. Rather he had listed non endangered species in the area.

Possibly more important, the FCC also stated that the proximity of a tower to a wildlife management area does not, by itself, mean that a structure may have a significant effect on the environment.

As previously reported, environmental assessments are now required for proposed new towers over 450 feet above ground level, for replacement or modification of existing structures over 450 feet that involve a major size increase or for certain lighting changes to towers over 450 feet tall. This decision is very significant as it gives insight as to how the agency will likely handle these cases in the future.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH.

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As we go to air its unknown if Peasrson will accept the FCC's decision or if he will appeal it up the Administrative Procedures chain. FCC, RW

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BREAK 2

With you 52 weeks a year, every year since 1976, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www dot arnewsline dot org and being brought to you by the following volunteer bulletin station:

(5 sec pause)

**

WITH NEWSLINE: WHO IS STILL USING PHONE LINE ACCESS SURVEY

This note to those of you who still receive these newscasts over our 661-296-2407 dial in line rater than downloading the MP3 file from our website. Of late we have noticed a major decline in the number of those calling into it and as such we are giving consideration to discontinuing it by years end. But before we do, we want to know how many people are actually using it. If you are one of those who call in each week on the phone, please send us a note telling us who you are and the reason you are using telephone access rather than simply downloading the newscast from the Internet. Our address is the Amateur Radio Newsline, 28197 Robin Avenue, Saugus California, 91350. Or you can e-mail us at newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. We look forward to hearing from you. (ARNewsline)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: NEW CHINA BUILT DUAL BAND MOBILE FOR UNDER $225

Get ready for the first 2 meter and 70 centimeter dual band mobile selling for under $225 including shipping. At least that's the price

being quoted in an on-line advertisement from the Hong Kong-based 409 Shop for the new Baojie model BJ-UV55 dual band mobile radio.

Like its Japan built counterparts, the BJ-UV55 has most of the features one expects from a basic dual band mobile. The radio features a large blue back lit LCD display that shows both frequencies programmed in at the same time. The transmitter runs 35 watts out on 70 centimeters and 45 watts on 2 meters. The manufacturer claims a receiver sensitivity of between .18 to .22 microvolts depending on selected bandwidth, 128 memory channels, both CTCSS and Digital CTCSS tone encoding, a DTMF microphone and even a built-in FM broadcast band receiver.

The negative on this radio is that nowhere in the advertisement is there any mention of the Baojie BJ-UV55 being FCC certified either under Part 15 or Part 90 making it illegal to import to the United States. Nor is there any service or repair station in the United States. That means returning a radio to the China-based manufacturer should it require maintenance. And as with any product purchased from a non-United States dealer, this can be more expensive than the price of the radio itself.

You can see this new dual bander on-line at tinyurl.com/Baojie-dual-band-mobile. And as we say with anything purchased from an overseas dealer, be certain that its legal to import and use here in the United States. Even more important are two words Caveat Emptor, which means buyer beware. (ARNewsline)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NZ4O MF/HF/6M PROPAGATIONS FORECASTS GO DAILY

Thomas Giella has announced that his NZ4O Medium Frequency, High Frequency and 6 Meter Radio Wave Propagation Forecast is now published on a 'daily' basis. It can be found on line at www.solarcycle24.org and www.wcflunatall.com/propagation.htm. Thomas notes that each new edition will be available at around 1300 UTC, but that there will be no daily e-mail notice about its being posted. Just check the websites for the daily updates. (NZ4O)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: AMATEUR RADIO AND POLITICS MEAN LOTS OF PEOPLE

North Carolina's Charlotte Observer reports that the 1,500 hotel rooms in Gaston County are solidly booked because of the Democrat Party's National Convention and a rather famous amateur radio Hamfest.

The newspaper says that the Shelby Hamfest takes place Labor Day weekend September 1st and 2nd. Meantime the 2012 Democratic National Convention is being held in the city of Charlotte from September 3rd to the 6th. And while no delegates to the convention are staying in Gaston County there are support people such as FBI agents, U.S. and foreign media and peripheral groups such as lobbyists who need places

to stay.

The annual Shelby Hamfest is one of the nations best attended amateur radio events. It is held at Biggerstaff Park in Dallas, North Carolina. The paper says that in 2011 about 12,800 ham radio enthusiasts from 30 states showed up. Many camped in RVs, but lots more stayed in local hotels. More on the hamfest is on-line at shelbyhamfest.com. (Charlotte Observer, Southgate)

**

ON THE AIR: N1Y TO COMMEMORATE THE 9/11 2001 TERRORIST ATTACKS

Members of the Symbol Technologies Amateur Radio Club will once again be operational as N1Y on September 8th and 9th. This in commemoration of those who lost their lives in the September 11th, 2001, al Quida lead terrorist attacks that felled the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City.

N1Y will be operating on 40, 20 and 15 meters using CW and SSB, in the General portions of those bands. A special QSL may be had by sending a SASE to W2SBL at the address found on QRZ.com. (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT: HAM ROAD RALLEYER REACHES MONGOLIA Despite a small war in Tajikistan, a pair of road rally enthusiasts have reached Mongolia. Neil Melville, PA9N, and Helen Woolnough, driving their 9 year old 1.1 liter Fiat Panda are taking part in the Mongol Rally where participants drive, in no more than six weeks, from the United Kingdom to Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia, using a thoroughly unsuitable car of 1.2 liters or less.

Woolnough and Meloville's entry is called The Uncertainty Principle and they started on their epic journey from the UK on July 14th. On Sunday, August 19th their location was given as 46.37 North and 96.25 East placing them near their goal.

The pair are driving the race to raise money for the Lotus Children's Centre Charitable Trust and UNICEF. By the time the event ends, they will have covered more than 10,000 miles through 19 countries, with no outside support.

Over the years PA9N has given many presentations to the AMSAT-UK International Space Colloquium in Guildford, England. His first spacecraft project was the eXpress-OSCAR 53 satellite better known as XO-53. Here on Earth you can follow their route and blog at theuncertaintyprinciple.co.uk. (Southgate)

**
WORLDBEAT: THE BBC TO TEST TURNING OFF MEDIUM WAVE TRANSMISSIONS

The British Broadcasting Corporation is undertaking a five week trial of switching off existing Medium Wave services for four BBC local radio

stations. The experiment runs from the 17th of August to the 24th of September and affects BBC Radio Kent, BBC Radio Lincolnshire, BBC Radio Merseyside and BBC Radio Nottingham.

The BBC say one way to make savings and preserve value to licensee fee payers is to switch off Medium Wave services except where listeners depend upon Medium Wave as an alternative to FM or Digital Audio Broadcasting. Medium Wave services in the UK mainly duplicate what is already available on FM and DAB, and most listeners will be able to hear their local stations on FM. Medium Wave is a European term that describes what we call the AM broadcast band here in the United States.

The BBC notes that the aim of the trial is to get a better understanding of the impact of the loss of Medium Wave would have on its core listeners and also enable the broadcaster to ensure adequate coverage is available on other platforms in these regions. (BBC)

**

BREAK 3

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: QUEBEC ANTI CELLPHONE WHILE DRIVING LAW NOW EXCLUDES TWO WAY RADIO

Some good news for hams living in the Canadian Province of Quebec. A four year old law banning the use of cellular phones while driving now has an implied exemption for those using two-way radio gear including radio amateurs. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, is here with the latest:

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According to a news release from Radio Amateurs of Quebec, the ban on the use of cellular telephones while driving came into force in April of 2008. Since that time different police departments have issued tickets for the use of various types of devices which in each departments view could be construed as a mobile telephone system.

Those who have received these tickets have vigorously contested them. But over the years the various courts hearing these cases have expanded considerably on what they believed the meaning of the law was to include a multitude of communications equipment far from cellular telephones.

Now, after four years of uncertainty the situation has now been clarified by amendments to the Highway Safety Code which came into effect this past June 6th. A new article of the code simply says that no person may, while driving a road vehicle, may use a hand-held device that includes a telephone function. More important, the first paragraph does not apply to a two-way radio or any cordless voice communication device which does not allow the parties to speak simultaneously.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera_Howell, KB3TZD, near Berwick, Pennsylvania.

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According to the new version of the law, for the purposes of enforcement, a driver in Quebec who is holding a hand-held device that includes a telephone function is presumed to be using the device. This prohibition does not apply to drivers of emergency vehicles in the performance of their duties. (VE2LGL, RAQI)

**

RADIO THROUGH SPACE: MARS ROVER GETS SOFTWARE UPDATE

NASA's Mars Science Laboratory at JPL team has sent a software update to the Curiosity Rover on Mars, more than 160 million miles away. According to Venturebeat dot com, the software had to be updated because Curiosity needed different directions to drive around on Mars than it did to land on the planet's surface.

The computer hardware in the Curiosity Rover is powered by a pair of computers built by BAE Systems. These RAD750 computers use a 10-year-old IBM PowerPC microprocessor running at a relatively slow 132 megahertz. These machines also have only 120 megabytes of random access memory, but are built to withstand wild temperature swings, radiation, and physical shaking.

The drawback is that the computers on the robot vehicle did not have enough memory for both the landing and its surface missions. So NASA had to swap out the software over four days of communication through the void of space. It took so long because it takes about 14 minutes to send the signal to the rover and another 14 minutes to get a response back. (Venturebeat.com)

**

DX

In DX, K7BV, having recovered from a serious medical condition, is returning to Asia for a short visit between August 25th and September 2nd. He will be using his HS0ZKS callsign on HF bands from the home of HS1CHB, and hopes to QSO friends from around the world. He may also get on the air from Japan as well using his call JF1XJR. QSL via K7BV's new address at 290 West Road, Turkey, North Carolina 28393.

W7XA will be active stroke DU1 through August 27th from near Tagaytay Ridge which is about 40 miles south of Manila in the Philippines. His operation is on 20, 17 and 15 meters using mostly CW and some SSB. QSL via his home callsign as found on QRZ.com.

OE4JHW will be operational as 8Q7OE from the Maldives between September 3rd and the 14th. Activity will be holiday style on 40 through 10 meters using SSB and BPSK. He will focus on stations from DL, HB0, HB9 and OE, as well as on North and South America. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau. Also electronically using either Logbook of the World or eQSL.

Lastly, CT1FJZ says that he is now in Angola and is expected to be there for one year working in Benguela and Huambo. Look for him to be active as D2FJZ, mainly on the weekends and limited times during the weekdays. Activity will be on 80 through 10 meters SSB. QSL to his home callsign, by the bureau or direct.

(Above from various DX news sources)

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THAT FINAL ITEM: HONORING ERIN KING, AK4JG - THE ARNEWSLINE 2012 YOUNG HAM OF THE YEAR

And finally this week, we want to take a moment to congratulate 18 year old Erin King, AK4JG, and receiving her award as the 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year. The ceremony was held at the Huntsville Hamfest where I had the honor of being the award presentation emcee, but it was truly AK4JG's moment to shine:

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AE5DW: "Ladies and gentlemen it is my pleasure to introduce to you a very impressive young lady. This is Erin King. She is your 2012 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year. Erin, the floor is yours. (Applause)

AK4JG: "Thank you. Thank you. Thanks Don. Thanks to everyone who has helped to make this possible.

"When I did my project with the tube and with all the ham radio stuff that I've been doing so far, I had no idea that it going to bring me this far. I had no idea that I was going to have the opportunity to earn this award or that any of this would be possible.

"Its been a lot of fun. I've been a ham for about four years now and I have learned so much and have met a ton of great people and ham radio has become an integral part of my life and its one of the primary reasons that I'm making the decisions for the future that I'm going to have.

"So it's all very exciting. I'm very excited to be here to earn this award, so thank you very much (applause).

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The Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is jointly underwritten by Yaesu USA Corporation, CQ Publishing and Heil Sound. Yaesu has been with the award since its inception some 27 years ago. This year the company was represented by its Executive Vice President of Amateur Radio Sales and Marketing Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV:

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K7BV: "Hi Erin and congratulations from Yaesu. We don't want you to go off the air while you are traveling around with all of your schooling, We want you to have a radio that you get on the air with no matter where you go and that would be our portable FT-817ND. We hope that you will pack it in your bag and take it with you all the way to your CEO position with a Fortune 500 company sometime soon. So congratulations."

AK4JG: "Thank you. (applause)"

--

Part of the award is an expense paid trip to Spacecamp Huntsville courtesy of CQ Publishing. CQ Magazine Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, took a bit of time to comment on quality of those nominated:

--

W2VU: We've had a tremendous time being involved with the Young Ham of the Year Award and I've been honored to be one of the judges since we became involved and the quality of the young people who have been nominated has been just wonderful and it makes me very optimistic for the future of our hobby. And this is year after year."

--

Last but by no means least the awards newest corporate sponsor Heil Sound. Not only did founder Bob Heil, K9EID, present Erin with a pair of the company's new headphones, but he also gave her a very special invitation to appear with him on his TWiT TV program Ham Nation:

--

K9EID: "Well we are so happy for you and we want to stay in touch with you as you get through all the wonderful things that happen in ham radio. Come and visit us on Ham Nation and I really hope that we can have you as a guest real soon."

--

And there you have it for yet another year. The 27th consecutive year that this award has been presented and the 19th consecutive year that the presentation has been made at the Huntsville Hamfest. And in that regard we want to express our thank you to Charlie Emerson, N4OKL, and his team that puts on this annual event and to Dave Bell, W6AQ, who sponsors the Young Ham of the Year plaque. And also to Tom Medlin,

W5KUB, who live streamed the presentation over the Internet for all to see on W5KUB.com and to Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, of Amateur Radio Video News who video recorded it for posterity. We thank you all. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, Twit-TV and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editor's desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in Southern Mississippi saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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190. 55th Annual World Scouting Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-30 17:49:18 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120830172209.DC1A5248BE@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 359
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

Dudley Allen, KD0NMD, sends along the following information. If you have some time for a good cause, please think about taking part.

Thanks and 73, Art K0AIZ

Greetings All: The 55th annual World Scouting Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is scheduled for 20-21 October this year. JOTA is an annual event that enables scouts around the world to communicate via amateur radio. The challenge is to match up interested scouts with Ham operators willing to participate.

Please visit the following website for JOTA information:
http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx

If you are interested in working with scouts to help them earn their Radio Merit badge and participate in JOTA you can visit the following website to find a Boy Scout Troop near you:

http://www.mac-bsa.org/districts_home.aspx

Make contact and see if there is interest. Furthermore, amateur radio operator assistance is appreciated for a Scout Merit Badge University scheduled for 20 Oct at Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs Iowa. If you are interested please contact Dudley Allen, KD0NMD, for details (spudtater@arrl.org) or Arli Boustead (aboustea@bsamail.org)

Here is an example of JOTA participation. Members of the Plattsmouth Amateur Radio Club will be operating from Boy Scout Camp Eagle, near Fremont, NE, in support of the Wagon Wheel Boy Scout District Fall Camporee. During this event the HAM operators will introduce well over 100 scouts to the adventure of amateur radio. Contact a Scout Troop near you and participate in the fun.

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org

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191. The ARRL Letter for August 30, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-30 22:49:34 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120830185603.0749826DB31@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 360
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

August 30, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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Downgraded to Tropical Storm
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- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: HAMS HEED THE CALL TO HELP AS ISAAC MAKES
LANDFALL, DOWNGRADED TO TROPICAL STORM

Seven years to the day that Hurricane Katrina smashed into New
Orleans, Hurricane Isaac came calling. But instead of making landfall
right at New Orleans like Katrina (a Category 3 storm) did on August
28, 2005, Isaac veered slightly to the west of the city. Through it
all, hams at WX4NHC -- the Amateur Radio station at the National
Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida -- and those supporting the
Hurricane Watch Net and the VoIP Hurricane Net, along with various nets
within the ARRL's Delta Division, relayed reports to their served
agencies on Isaac's progress and the damage the storm created in its
wake.

"Even though Isaac has made landfall and is currently tracking slowly
up Central Louisiana to Arkansas, hams in the Delta Division are not
```

done," explained ARRL Delta Division Director David Norris, K5UZ. "We had quite a few nets running as Isaac came ashore, and some are still going on, relaying damage reports and assisting with health-and-welfare traffic. As the American Red Cross and other served agencies venture out in the field within the next few days to assess the damage created by Isaac, hams in the Delta Division are ready to assist these teams with whatever communications support is necessary. Just because Isaac itself is over, we know that storms like this can bring tornadoes, power outages and other weather events in their wake, and we are prepared to continue to provide any support that is needed." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/hams-heed-the-call-to-help-as-isaac-makes-landfall-downgraded-to-tropical-storm>.

==> + ON THE AIR: 2012 ARRL FIELD DAY LOGS POSTED

More than 2600 submissions have been received for the 2012 running of ARRL Field Day <http://www.arrl.org/fieldday>. According to ARRL Field Day Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, this is another great showing for the number of entries received for what is one of Amateur Radio's most popular on-the-air operating events. The combined list of Logs Received for Field Day has been posted online <http://www.arrl.org/logs-received>. The list includes all logs submitted via the http://www.b4h.net/ website, as well as those submitted via e-mail and US Mail.

Because Field Day is not a "Cabrillo-format" event, there is no automated robot for processing entries. When you go to the website to see if your submission was received, look near the bottom of the page under "Other Reports." Click on the link to open the PDF for the 2012 listings. If you find your listing is missing, please contact Henderson via e-mail <n1nd@arrl.org> or by phone at 860-594-0200. If you find a typographical error in your listing -- or if your log is marked as a "Checklog" -- please contact Kathy Allison, KA1RWY, via e-mail <ka1rwy@arrl.org>. Logs marked as "Checklog" indicate that required information is missing that is still needed to properly process your entry. All problems must be resolved by Friday, August 31.

Henderson explained that the current list only shows general categories; the various sub-categories are added when the data is merged into the master database. Claimed scores or bonuses are also not included, as these are not publicized until the results are officially released. The results from the 2012 ARRL Field Day will be posted online on or around November 1, as well as in the December issue of QST. The 2013 ARRL Field Day is scheduled for June 22-23.

==> + ON THE AIR: GET IN ON THE VHF FUN IN THE 2012 ARRL SEPTEMBER VHF QSO PARTY

September is here -- and according to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, the VHF+ bands have been getting a workout: "If you've never experienced the fun of VHF+ operating, the 2012 ARRL

September VHF QSO Party the weekend of September 8-10 is a great place to start. With many HF radios now offering at least 6 meter SSB/CW capabilities -- and some offering 2 meters and 70 cm as well -- any amateur with a Technician class license or higher can experience long-haul communication on the VHF bands."

Kutzko explained that September -- as opposed to June with its sporadic-E openings -- is known for good tropospheric propagation. "In the past week, there have been some good tropo openings in the mornings on 2 meters along the Eastern seaboard and in the Midwest. There's even been a touch of sporadic-E propagation on 6 meters this week, primarily in the western half of the US. Couple the recent openings with talk among the VHF Hopeful of some F2 propagation on 6 meters (due to the upswing of Solar Cycle 24), and the potential for enhanced propagation during the contest looks favorable." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/get-in-on-the-vhf-fun-in-the-2012-arrl-september-vhf-qso-party>.

==> + IARU SUPPORTS PROPOSAL FOR .RADIO DOMAIN NAME

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has expressed public support for a .radio top-level domain name. Under the proposal as put forth by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), registration will be available via the EBU to all eligible radio representative organizations and broadcasters, Internet radios, radio amateurs, radio professionals and their respective representative organizations, as well as companies providing radio-specific products and services in order to create a worldwide radio community. The proposal must be approved by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN <http://www.icann.org/>); this organization is responsible for the coordination of the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers and, in particular, ensuring its stable and secure operation. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/iaru-supports-proposal-for-b-radio-b-domain-name>.

==> + YOUTH AND AMATEUR RADIO: NORTH CAROLINA TEEN NAMED RECIPIENT OF ARRL'S 2011 HIRAM PERCY MAXIM AWARD

Derek Brown, W4DTB, of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, was named the recipient of the 2011 Hiram Percy Maxim Award. Derek, who is 14, has been licensed since 2010 and holds an Amateur Extra class license.

Derek first became interested in Amateur Radio after reading an article in MAKE Magazine. "After I read the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, I went to the local club, the Orange County Radio Amateurs (NCOCRA <http://ncocra.org/>) to take my Technician test," he told the ARRL. "That same evening, I met my Elmer, Bruce Meier, N1LN, who inspired me to finish the next two tests. He helped me build a station, including my first radio that I bought at a swap meet. With his help, I put up a vertical antenna in my backyard. Unfortunately, a tree knocked down the antenna about two weeks ago and broke the mounting bracket, so I'll be offline until after we get the replacement parts."

Meier recalled meeting Derek when he first came in to take his Technician exam in September 2010: "Derek had just turned 14. He had discovered Amateur Radio and was starting to get involved. His interest quickly grew, and by November 2010, he had his General ticket and then in March 2011, his Extra. In February 2011, Derek and his father went to a hamfest and found his first rig. Since Derek lives in an antenna-restricted area, he started to research different stealth antennas. As he wanted to start to work on his WAS, DXCC and WAC awards, and potentially get in involved in contesting (he got exposed to contesting at my QTH), he wanted something beyond stealth. So because of the woods behind his house, he was able to put up a vertical antenna and not bother any of the neighbors. He was now on the air."

Meier told the ARRL that Derek started out with SSB, but because of his skills in computers and computer programming, he became interested in the digital modes. "Derek modified his radio (by himself) and connected an interface board to enable the necessary control signals, wired up a home brew soundcard interface and was then able to operate digital modes," Meier explained. "He now operates PSK 31, RTTY PSK 63, Olivia 250, JT35 and even SSTV. Not bad for a 14 year old!" Derek is working on his CW skills, and recently earned his DXCC Award and only needs Vermont to complete his Worked All States Award. He also enjoys operating on the satellite modes, as well as developing software for his local HSMM Mesh.

Meier said that Derek competed with him and his team of operators in the 2011 CQ WW SSB contest. "We operated as a Multi/Two entry and were fortunate to place first in North America," he said. "Derek has also operated from his own home in the CQ WPX SSB Contest, the ARRL Rookie Roundup and several other contests."

Derek is also involved in public service activities. Meier's wife, Laurie Meier, N1YXU, was the ARES Emergency Coordinator for Orange County, North Carolina (she and Bruce are now Assistant Emergency Coordinators). Through them, Derek became interested in public service activities and started to take the various ICS courses. He has now taken and passed ICS 100, 200, 700, 800 and IS-3. Meier said that Derek is ready to help with ARES drills, public service events and ARES activations.

Derek is an active member of NCOCRA and his local ARES® group. He has worked with the club's public relations officer to revamp the club's website. He is the founder of the Youth Amateur Radio Club of America (YARCA <http://www.yarca.org/>), which aims to further youths in Amateur Radio; one of YARCA's initial target audiences is Scout troops. The site includes license test training and a Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge Workshop. Derek said he is currently planning for YARCA to hold a Badge Day for local Boy and Cub Scouts. He is also an ARRL Public Information Officer (PIO).

When not on the radio, Derek spends time as a Computer Science intern, where he is creating computer programs in a variety of languages. He is also a Lincoln-Douglas debater and will be traveling to tournaments

across the country this year. He will be entering his freshman year at Durham Academy in Durham, North Carolina this fall.

The Hiram Percy Maxim Award <http://www.arrl.org/hiram-percy-maxim-award> is given to an ARRL member under the age of 18. It is intended to provide a tangible reward to those deserving young amateurs who contribute their time, skills and energies daily through their commitment to Amateur Radio. As models for their peers, and inspirations to us all, these fine young people are highly visible boosters of Amateur Radio awareness. The ARRL continues to recognize and encourage their hard work and contributions at every opportunity.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Everything under the Sun is in tune, but the Sun is eclipsed by the Moon <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EoD_SEoDPzc>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Although solar activity is quite low, there was an increase in sunspot numbers and the solar flux over the past week. The average daily sunspot numbers were up nearly 20 points -- about 36 percent -- to 74.1, while the average daily solar flux increased nearly 13 points to 108.7. The latest forecast has activity over the next week a bit lower than what forecasts predicted a few weeks ago: Expected solar flux is 115 on August 30, 120 on August 31-September 2, 115 again on September 3-8, 110 on September 9-10, 105 on September 11-12, 100 on September 13-16, 95 on September 17-22, and then rising above 100 to a peak of 125 on September 26-28. The predicted planetary A index is 5, 10 and 8 on August 30-September 1, 5 on September 2-7, 8 on September 8-9, 5 on September 10-14, 12 on September 15-16, 8 on September 17-18, 5 on September 19, 8 on September 20-21, 10 on September 22, and 8 on September 23-25, followed by 5 on September 26 through the first few days in October. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, August 31. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Pink Floyd's The Dark Side of the Moon <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Dark_Side_of_the_Moon> (Brain Damage <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brain_Damage_%28song%29>/Eclipse <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eclipse_%28song%29>).

==> + DXCC NEWS: DXCC DESK APPROVES 1998 XU1A CAMBODIAN DXPEDITION

After reviewing new information and documentation, the ARRL DXCC Desk has concluded that the 1998 XU1A DXpedition to Cambodia will be valid for DXCC credit. If you have had QSLs rejected for this operation, please send a request via e-mail <bmoore@arrl.org> to be placed on the list for update. If you remember the submission in which you included the QSL, please note this in your e-mail, as it will expedite the search for the rejected QSO.

==> + ARRL HEADQUARTERS TO CLOSE IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY

ARRL Headquarters will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 3. There will be no W1AW bulletin or code practice transmissions <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> that day. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Tuesday, September 4 at 8 AM Eastern Daylight Time. We wish everyone a safe and festive holiday weekend.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- August 31 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- September 1 -- Russian RTTY WW Contest; Wake-Up! QRP Sprint; AGCW Straight Key Party
- September 1-2 -- Colorado QSO Party; All Asian DX Contest (Phone); CWOps CW Open
- September 2 -- DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest
- September 2-3 -- Tennessee QSO Party
- September 3-4 -- Michigan QRP Labor Day CW Sprint
- September 4 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

Next week:

- September 7-8 -- PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80 Meter Sprint (local time)
- September 8-9 -- Arkansas QSO Party; WAE DX Contest (SSB)
- September 8-10 -- ARRL September VHF QSO Party <http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf>
- September 9 -- North American Sprint (CW); SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; Swiss HTC QRP Sprint
- September 10 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- September 12-13 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- September 14-15 -- W9DXCC Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/w9dxcc-convention-2>, Elk Grove Village, Illinois
- September 15 -- ARRL Virginia Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-section-convention-virginia-beach-hamfest>, Virginia Beach, Virginia
- September 22 -- ARRL Washington State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/washington-state-convention-36th-annual-spokane-hamfest>, Spokane Valley, Washington
- September 22-23 -- ARRL Illinois State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/illinois-state-convention-peoria-superfest-2012
>,
Peoria, Illinois
- September 28-29 -- SEDCO/W4DXCC VIII Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/sedco-w4dxcc-viii-convention>, Pigeon
Forge, Tennessee
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>,
Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>,
Melbourne, Florida
- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest
-computer-expo-1>,
Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes
t-computer-show'>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to

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s>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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192. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1829 - August 31 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-08-31 09:00:15 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120831090004.57E5733C7E@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 361
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1829 - August 31 2012

The following is a closed circuit and is not necessarily for air. With a report on the Amateur Radio Newsline current financial picture here's our producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF:

--

Well, the last time I was on here with a financial report I told you that I thought we had enough in the bank to hopefully hold us over the summer months June, July and August, and that I would not be asking for any contributions unless the sky was falling. Sadly, the sky is falling this year. This is mainly because we did not get some of the larger donations that we have come to count on to keep us going over the lean summer months when people are away on vacation.

Right now, we only have a couple of hundred dollars left in our bank account. Most of that will vanish as we pay off our financial obligation in regard to presenting this years Young Ham of the Year Award and the outstanding bills for the month of August which are quickly piling up. And unlike the years up through October 2009 when I retired from full time employment, I'm now living on fixed income and honestly cannot afford to underwrite the cost of bringing these newscasts to you.

To be candid, I do not like to lead off a newscast with an appeal such as this, but we have no other method of getting the word out to you that we need your financial assistance to keep Amateur Radio Newsline on the air, and that we need it now. To all of us involved, each donation is looked upon as an ongoing vote of confidence in the quality of the news and information that we provide each week. And for this I add my personal thank you.

Remember, Amateur Radio Newsline is a 501c3, not for profit corporation and your donations are tax deductible. The easiest way to donate is by going to our website at www.arnewsline.org and clicking on the Pay Pal button. Or you can mail a donation to the address you will hear at the end of this weeks newscast.

Whichever method you choose, the all volunteer Amateur Radio Newsline team says thank you so much for caring. We promise to do all that we can to continue bringing you the news and information you want to hear about amateur radio and personal communications in the coming years.

Thank you. I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, and now this weeks newscast.

--

Thanks bill. Now, Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1829 with a release date of August 31 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T.

Amateur radio assists as Hurricane Isaac hits the U.S. Gulf shore; the London Olympics ham radio station may have set a world record and a star is found devouring a planet. Find out the details on Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1829 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAM RADIO WAS READY FOR HURRICANE ISAAC

Amateur radio first responders along the United States Gulf shore were ready when Hurricane Isaac slammed ashore on August 28th and 29th. We have the more in this report:

--

As Hurricane Isaac made its way across the Gulf of Mexico and then made landfall several miles West of New Orleans, Louisiana, members of the Hurricane Watch Net took to the air to track its approach:

--

(Ham in Florida) ".Victor-Radio-4-Golf. The handle here is Bill and Im located in Pensacola, Florida and we've had some winds gusts up to about 44 miles an hour. We went out for a ride along the beach this afternoon and they do now have some roads closed and water was coming over the sand dunes and starting to flood some of the roads, over"

--

While band conditions on 20 and 40 meters were not the greatest, the net continued and began passing storm conditions to the National Hurricane Center in Miami:

--

(Ham in New Orleans: ".we have wind gusts of about 70 to 75 miles per hour right now. Its really coming bad on us but my antenna is located in the attic."

--

One report was rather interesting from a scientific point of view:

--

(Ham in New Orleans) "The Mississippi river at the Carrolton gate in New Orleans is flowing backward."

--

Also taking reports for the National Hurricane Center was the V-O-I-P Hurricane Watch net. This group gathers information mainly from local repeaters within the storm area and also passes it along to the National Hurricane Center:

--

(VoIP Net Audio) "K3-November-Foxtrot-Uniform in Slidell, Louisiana. Estimated winds of 30 and no rain as of this time."

--

Hams on the V-O-I-P net also provided ongoing damage assessment:

--

(VoIP Net Audio) "I was informed that the power has hone out in mid-city New Orleans, Louisiana near the steets of Murat and Bowden."

"Roger. I have Murast and Bowden. Did I copy correctly that was mid-city New Orleans?"

--

As this report is being prepared, Issac has been downgraded from a category 1 hurricane to a tropical storm but is soaking Louisiana and surrounding states for yet another day. As such, the job of ham radio operators in coping with the storm is far from over.

With thanks to K3VR for the recordings of the 20 meter Hurricane Watch Net, Im Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

We will have more on the role of amateur radio in the wake of Hurricane Isaac in upcoming Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (ARNewsline(tm) with audio from Hurricane Watch Net and VoIP Hurricane Watch Net.)

**

RADIO LAW: IARU SAYS IT WOULD WELCOME DOT RADIO DOMAIN

The International Amateur Radio Union says that it will back the European Broadcasting Union proposal that the top level Internet domain dot radio be used to help to create a global radio community. IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, says that his organization believes that the proposal, to be submitted by the European Broadcast Union, could provide a unique opportunity to standardize radio domain names on the Internet.

In a recently made public letter, VE6SH said that he recommends that the dot radio domain proposal be approved by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers. European Broadcast Union Director General, Ingrid Deltenre said the International Amateur Radio Union comments are an expression of confidence in the proposal. The complete

story on the new dot radio domain and how it will impact all spectrum users is on-line at tinyurl.com/iaru-dot-radio (IARU, VK3PC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: LONDON OLYMPICS COMMEMORATIVE STATION MAY HAVE SET WORLD RECORD

The Radio Society of Great Britain reports that the team at 2O12L, the amateur radio station for the London Olympic and Paralympic Games, believe that they have now broken the world record for the number of Q-S-O's by a Special Event Station. As of 21:42 UTC on August 21st, 2O12L had logged contact number 47,791.

2O12L goes QRT on September 9th at the end of the Paralympic Games closing ceremony. As such the operators are fairly confident that they can achieve their target of 60,000 contacts.

It is believed the previous standing record for a ham radio Special Event station was held by the group that operated DQ2006X during the 2006 World Cup. That station was on the air from May 13th through July 16th of 2006 and made 47,790 contacts.

More on the operation of 2O12L is on-line at www.2O12L.com. (RSGB)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: APRS TO ASSIST VULTURE 2 SPACEPLANE TRACKING

The Low Orbit Helium Assisted Navigator Vulture 2 space plane will carry an amateur radio Automatic Packet Reporting System or APRS system.

The UK newspaper the Register reports that Anthony Stirk, M-Zero-U-P-U, who was involved in the Raspberry Pi In The Sky mission, is working on the custom control board for the Vulture 2 space plane.

As of now, the communications subsystem has a Radiometrix 300 milliwatt HX1 144 MHz band module for APRS and a Radiometrix 10 milliwatt NTX2 433 MHz band module for RTTY. More information on frequencies will ve announced at a later date.

More on this upcoming near to space adventure can be read on-line at tinyurl.com/vulture-2. And we will have more ham radio space related news later on in this weeks newscast. (UK Register)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W9RCA repeater serving Indianapolis, Indiana.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: VOTE ON ADDING ENGINEERS TO COMMISSION STAFF SEEMS STALLED IN CONGRESS

Legislation working its way Congress that would add a technical expert to the staff of each FCC commissioner may not come up for a vote this fall. This is because the House and Senate versions of the bill to allow each of the five commissioners to hire one additional staff engineer are still in committee. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

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Maine Republican Senator Olympia Snowe introduced S. 611 in May 2011. The measure seeks to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide commissioners additional technical expertise. However Snowe's intention to retire at the end of this year has led supporters to push for a vote before the end of this Congressional term.

The companion House companion measure is H.R. 2102: FCC Commissioners' Technical Resource Enhancement Act. The Society of Broadcast Engineers better known as the SBE is a major supporter of these two pieces of legislation. In a recent press statement, SBE President Ralph Hogan said that his organization has scheduled a trip to Washington to meet with key members of Congress in Washington, This to further groups efforts to move the bills through the House and Senate before the end 2012.

However, SBE General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, acknowledged in a column that appeared in the August edition of the SBE publication "The Signal" that time is of the essence.

According to Imlay, the SBE's last chance this fall to get H.R. 2102 through the House is `on suspension.' That means the measure is without the usual hearing and report procedure.

To move a bill along in these cases normally requires that the bill have a large number of cosponsors. Imlay says that in an election year, this is not easy, noting that there are only four co-sponsors for the House bill now.

Currently, FCC commissioners can appoint only three legal advisors to counsel the Commissioners on the wired, wireless and cable media. As part of its legislative agenda, the Society of Broadcast Engineers has sought greater technical expertise on the commission for several years.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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Passage of these measures is important to the ham radio community as it will put technical expertise to the highest level of the Commission which for decades has lead primarily by members of the legal profession

rather than technologists and engineers. This could lead to a better understanding of our needs than is possible right now. (SBE, RW)

**

ENFORCEMENT: RAC ACTS TO PREVENT UNLAWFUL USE OF 2 METERS BY PARAGLIDING COMPETITION

Radio Amateurs of Canada took action after a Paragliding competition in British Columbia told its contestants to communicate using a frequency in the 2 meter amateur band. Bob Holowenko, VE7WNK, has more:

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Radio Amateurs of Canada received a report by a British Columbia ham who notified them of what appeared to be the use of the two meter band for the operation of a paragliding competition. Dave Cameron, VE7LTD, witnessed this radio traffic and I was able to talk with him over the phone.

-

VE7LTD: "I was at a local repeater site helping the locals there by doing a sweep trying to find a source of interference. I had my HP8920A Service Monitor and I was monitoring around the band trying to find what the sources of intermod could be, and I noticed a few spikes in the ham band. Knowing that there is not a lot of VHF activity in the Pemberton area, I decided to tune into each of those and one was on 146.415 simplex where I heard lots of intercommunication between both paragliders in the air and some kind of race coordination on the ground."

-

This "race coordination" which Dave was hearing was the Canadian Paragliding National Championships held in Pemberton, BC. Dave reported this to The Radio Amateurs of Canada who became extremely concerned about the organizers assertion that all participants must use a VHF radio tuned to 146.415 Mhz for launching and landing.

Southern BC is popular for paragliding and hangliding thrill seekers, and the ham community here knows many of those who take part in these events are licensed hams, however it has become apparent that many are not.

-

VE7LTD: "There was never a call sign used, and never any identification used. Although the communication was very structures, you could tell it was not by ham operators"

-

Dave did go on to say that of the registered Canadian participants at the event, at least 40% of their names were found in the Ras=dio

Amateurs of Canada database.

RAC has been in contact with representatives from the Paragliding community and has also requested enforcement action to be taken by government officals at Industry Canada.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bob Holowenko, VE7WNK, in Vancouver, British Columbia.

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According to Radio Amateurs of Canada, protecting the ham radio spectrum from intruders is all in a days work for the group. (RAC, VE7WNK)

**

HELPING HAMS: RFINDER.NET SEEKS INPUT FROM FREQUENY COORDINATORS

The on-line repeater directory RFinder is inviting Frequency Coordinators to use the World Wide Radio Directory help them in conducting their work. The hams who operate RFinder say that they have already heard from several frequency coordinators who have told them that being able to see the repeaters across borders is very helpful. As such, RFfinder says that frequency coordinators in several countries are using RFinder/Web as a tool in their activities. They are also looking to compile a wish list from the coordination community to build a special portal for them to have the tools they need to make frequency coordination easier. If you are a coordinator who wants to contribute to this wish list please send your thoughts by e-mail to w2cyk (at) rfinder (dot) net. You lraen more about RFinder and the services that it provides all who use repeaters on-line at www.rfinder.net. (RFinder)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ARRL CENTENNIAL CONVENTION IN HARTFORD CT

On the ham radio social scene, the ARRL has announced the organization will hold its 2014 national Centennial Convention in Hartford, Connecticut, from July 17th to the 20th. The Convention will mark 100 years of the ARRL's founding that took place in the city of Hartford. The theme for ARRL's Centennial year is Advancing the Art and Science of Radio Since 1914. More information is on-line at www.arrl.org/expo. (ARRL)

**

RADIO HAPPENINGS: NRCDXAS SWITCHING FROM TAPE TO CD MAILOUTS

According to Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, the September and October issues of the National Radio Club's D-X Audio Service will be the last to issue on cassette tape. Beginning in November these reports will switch distribution to CD's after 27 years of tape mailouts.

Fred asks that if you know someone who is blind or otherwise visually impaired, and who loves the topic of broadcast radio, to please tell them about the DX Audio Service. More information about it can be found on-line at www.nrcdxas.org. (W8HDU)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: BRITISH SOPRANO SARAH BRIGHTMAN MAY BE THE NEXT SPACE TOURIST

A world famous entertainer may be the next to travel to the International Space Station. Amateur Radio Newsline's George Bowen, W2XBS, has the details:

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British soprano Sarah Brightman could become the next space tourist to visit the International Space Station. This according to a senior official at the Russian Space Agency who hinted on August 22nd that the 52 year old songstress best known for her creating the role of Christine Daae' in the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical The Phantom of the Opera is being considered as candidate for such a trip.

The Interfax news agency cited a space industry source as saying that the name of the next space tourist, who will most likely fly to the ISS in 2015, will be officially announced in around a month. The source also told Interfax that Brightman visited Russia around a month ago and was given the go-ahead by the medical commission to train at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre in Star City outside Moscow.

Previous space tourists visiting the ISS have included the Canadian founder of the Cirque du Soleil, Guy Laliberte, and computer game creator Richard Garriott, W5KWQ. As most of you know, Richard Garriott is the son of retired Astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL, who was the first radio amateur to ever operate from space. This on shuttle mission STS-9. Iranian-American entrepreneur Anousheh Ansari is so far the only woman to make the trip to the I-S-S.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm George Bowen, W2XBS, in Albany, New York.

--

More about Sarah Brightman's proposed trip to Earth orbit is on-line at tinyurl.com/brightman-iss. (Interfax, AFP)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: MIRAGE AND RF CONCEPTS FOUNDER EVERETT GRACY, WA6CBA - S.K.

The man responsible for many pieces of equipment in the shacks of so many hams has become a silent key at age 91. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, brings us the story of Everett Gracey, WA6CBA.

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On Sunday morning, August 26, the Amateur Radio world lost a gentle giant, as Everett Gracey, WA6CBA became a silent key. For the many of us who knew Everett, it is loss unlike any other. We have lost a great source of knowledge, but most of all, a dear friend. For everyone else who did not know him, the word "giant" is not adequate to describe him. His contributions to the Amateur Radio world were immeasurable.

For those of you who ever owned a piece of gear with the name RF Concepts or Mirage Communications on it, you held a piece of his life and legacy, since he was a co-founder of both companies, which he started with Ken Holaday, K6HCP. Later in life Everett became a consultant to LDG Electronics, who, according to Everett put out one of the greatest automatic antenna tuners on the market, and are sold world wide.

Everett spent most of his life in and around Reno, Nevada, where he married his wife Dorothy on July 6, 1940. He was devoted to her, since she was always first and foremost in his mind. He took care of her in their later years, and finally, it was his concern for her well being that prompted his move from Reno to Grass Valley, California, so that her care could be shared with medical professionals.

Everett was also a decorated veteran, who fought in with the Army in Europe during WWII, and was awarded both the Bronze Star and Silver Star for bravery in Germany. He was also recipient of the Purple Heart. He was also author of several books, "From A 13 year old Hobo to an Entrepreneur" "My 20 Years of RV Adventures" and "Buying and Selling Real Estate by Owner". One of my most treasured possessions is an autographed copy of his autobiographical book, "From Freight Trains to Airplanes", published in 1999.

Everett was always ready to lend a friendly hand with a good piece of advice, Elmering and plenty of wisdom which helped many a ham in need, and always seemed to have exactly what they needed to complete the project, or get back on the air. He even gave away parts used for fixing antennas and gear, at no charge.

As a dear mutual friend of Everett's and mine said of his passing, Everett, "I will miss you.you rascal..Oh, and while you are winging your way around the heavens, and you had best not tamper with my RF signal when I am attempting to work DX, or someday, you and I will have a long discussion about that!".

With sincere thanks to Joe Wolfe, WA6RKN for his informative help, for the Amateur Radio Newsline, this is Don Carlson, KQ6FM in Reno.

--

Per his request no service or memorial will be held. Instead his ashes will be placed next to his wife Dorothy. Everett and Dorothy Gracey had been married 70 years. (KQ6FM, WA6RKN)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: KEPLARIAN ELEMENTS CHANGE WITH ISS HIGHER ORBIT

Space-Travel.com reports on August 22nd that a European ATV-3 unmanned supply spacecraft was used to raise the International Space Station's orbit to about 261 miles. The orbit adjustment was done in two stages, with the ATV-3 engines firing for 348 seconds to lift the orbit to 257 miles followed by another burn four hours later that brought the space station to its final altitude.

The maneuver was conducted to prepare for the return to earth of Russia's Soyuz TMA-04M manned spacecraft on September 17 and the docking of the Soyuz TMA-06M manned spacecraft with the ISS on October 15th. For amateur radio space enthusiasts this means that you will have to readjust your Keplarian elements when tracking the I-S-S at its new higher altitude. The complete story of this orbital maneuver is on-line at tinyurl.com/ISS-Reboost. (ANS, Spece-Travel.com)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2012 AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM

AMSAT says that registration for its 2012 Space Symposium is now open on-line. To register over the World-Wide-Web simply take your computer to store (dot) amsat (dot) org/catalog and click on the "AMSAT 2012 Symposium" item in the top left box.

A mail-in option is also available for those who wamt to register the old fashioned way. A downloadable paper registration forms in MS-Word and PDF format are available on the 2012 Symposium page at tinyurl.com/amsat-2012-reg.

This years AMSAT Space Symposium takes place October 26th through the 28th at the Holiday Inn Orlando-International Airport in Orlando, Florida. This hotel is located at only one mile north of the Orlando International Airport. at 5750 T.G. Lee Blvd, in Orlando. (AMSAT)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: CPUT CUBESAT TO LAUNCH END NOVEMBER

A CubeSat designed and built by students at the Cape Peninsular University of Technology in Bellville, South Africa, will be launched towards the end of November.

Still known by its engineering name ZA Cube-1, the satellite will be shipped in the next few weeks to Holland. There it will be integrated with two other CubeSats in the launch carrier before being shipped for integrating with the rocket.

ZA Cube-1 is rare for a ham radio bird in that it carries a High Frequency transmitter operating on 14.099 MHz in the 20 meter band. Also on-board is a small camera and a telemetry transmitter. (SARL)

**

DX

In DX, N6MW and possibly 1 or 2 other operators will be active stroke KH8 from American Samoa between November 8th and the 19th. Operations will be on 160 through 10 meters using mainly CW, but some SSB and RTTY. QSL via Logbook of the World.

A group of radio amateurs from Poland will be on the air as 5T0SP from Mauritania between November 24th and December 10th. Their activity will be on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. As of airtime no QSL route has been announced

Bill Moore, NC1L, at the ARRL says that the 1998 X-U-one-A operation from Cambodia has been approved for DXCC Credit. Moore says that if you have had QSLs rejected please send an e-mail to bmoore (at) arrl (dot) org to be placed on the list for update. If you remember the submission in which you included the QSL please note this to expedite the search for the rejected QSO.

Lastly, SM0JHF reports that he has retired and can no longer afford sending out QSL cards automatically. He notes that for the past 50 years that he has personally filled out and shipped more than 100,000 QSL cards for his activities using numerous past callsigns. He says that he will clean house and dispose of blank cards by the end of this year. If you need a card for any of his calls please contact him by e-mail to sm0jhf (at) gmail (dot) com. A complete list of his operations over the years is under SM0JHF on QRZ.com

(Above from various DX news sources)

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THAT FINAL ITEM: STAR FOUND DEVOURING PLANET

And finally this week, radio and radio astronomy have brought some new light on the way nature works out in the cosmos. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, takes us to the far reaches of space:

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Astronomers have found evidence of a planet being devoured by its star, yielding insights into the fate that will befall Earth several billions years in the future.

The team uncovered the signature of the planet that had been absorbed by looking at the chemistry of the host star. They also think a surviving planet circling this star may have been kicked into its unusual orbit by the destruction of a neighboring world.

The US-Polish-Spanish team made the discovery when they were studying the star BD+48 740 - which is one of a stellar class known as red giants. Rising temperatures near the cores of red giants cause these elderly stars to expand in size. This in turn results in any nearby planets to be absorbed by the expanding star or otherwise destroyed.

It's the way of the universe now brought to us thanks to the art of radio and the science of Astronomy.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

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Details of the work have been published in Astrophysical Journal Letters. The complete story is on-line at tinyurl.com/planet-hungry-star. (ScienceToday, BBC, others)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, wishing you a safe and enjoyable Labor Day weekend. 73 and as always, we thank you for listening.

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193. The ARRL Letter for September 6, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-06 22:29:59 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120906171913.D204526B40@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 362
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

September 6, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL SECOND CENTURY: ARRL PLANS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN
HARTFORD IN 2014

The ARRL has announced plans to hold its National Centennial Convention
in Hartford, Connecticut on July 17-20, 2014. The Convention will mark
100 years of the ARRL's founding in Hartford. ARRL President Kay
Craigie, N3KN, has also announced a theme for ARRL's Centennial year:
Advancing the Art and Science of Radio -- Since 1914.

In May 1914, Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW -- a leading inventor and
industrialist in Hartford, Connecticut -- founded the American Radio
Relay League, together with Clarence Tuska, 1WD, the secretary of The
Radio Club of Hartford. Today, the ARRL serves almost 160,000 members,
mostly licensed radio amateurs, in the US and around the world.
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The decision to hold the ARRL Centennial Convention in Hartford was made by the ARRL Board of Directors at its July 2012 meeting. The organization's headquarters has been maintained in the Hartford area since its founding. ARRL's present headquarters is located on Main Street in Newington, Connecticut, a suburb of Hartford, and is visited by nearly 2000 groups and individuals each year. The site has been home to The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW, since 1938. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-plans-centennial-celebration-in-hartford-in-2014>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: VOIP HURRICANE NET PROVIDES SUPPORT DURING HURRICANE ISAAC

The VoIP Hurricane Net -- running on the *WX_TALK* EchoLink conference node 7203/IRLP 9219 -- was active over a two day period from August 28-29 as Hurricane Isaac pounded the Northern Gulf Coast with high winds, extremely heavy rainfall, significant storm surge and river and stream flooding. The VoIP Hurricane Net operated for more than 25 hours continuously during the US coast landfall. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/voip-hurricane-net-provides-support-during-hurricane-isaac>.

==> + CHECK OUT THE OCTOBER 2012 ISSUE OF QST

Have you ever wanted to go on a DXpedition, but lacked the time -- or resources -- to make it happen? Never fear, because you can go on four DXpeditions from the comfort of your armchair, thanks to the October edition of QST! In our annual DXing issue, discover DXpeditions of lore and legend as we take you to Malpelo, Rotuma, Navassa and the Mountains of the Moon. So sit back and enjoy all the fun and challenges that come with being in a remote part of the world, connected to civilization only by radio waves racing through the ether.

The cover of the October issue of QST features the 2012 HK0NA DXpedition to Malpelo, an island located about 235 miles of the coast of Colombia. In his article "Malpelo Island DXpedition 2012 -- HK0NA," Bob Allphin, K4UEE, recounts how 20 hams from six countries came together to activate the #12 most-wanted DXCC entity earlier this year. Travel with Paul S. Ewing, N6PSE, to Rotuma in his article "DXpedition to the Future," and with J. Robert Eshleman, W4DR, to Navassa in "DX Determination." Lots of hams depend on spotting networks to work DX. Murray Green, K3BEQ, tells how DX spotting networks have advanced from voice over 2 meter simplex to the Reverse Beacon Network in his article "The Evolution of DX Spotting."

As many hams know, tubes can be expensive and hard to find. To overcome this, James Klitzing, W6PQL, developed a compact linear amplifier. In his article "Solid State 1 kW Linear Amplifier for 2 Meters," he shows readers exactly what they need to build the amplifier. Arch Doty, W7ACD, knows that there's more to cosmic and atmospheric noise than meets the ear. In his article "Those Mysterious Signals," he explains that while these signals may just sound like noise to us, they mean a

lot more to radio astronomers. ARRL Education and Technology Program Coordinator Mark Spencer, WA8SME, shows how to control your VHF SSB transceiver to simulate full duplex operation in his article "Satellite CAT Interface for Working the Analog Birds."

ARRL Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM, takes a look at the Alinco DJ-V57T handheld dual-band transceiver in this month's Product Review. He says the rig "offers a nice selection of basic features and good transmit and receive performance at a reasonable price. The standard battery pack is fine for casual use, but consider one of the optional high capacity packs if you expect to transmit frequently." ARRL Contributing Editor Rick Palm, K1CE, checked out the Kenwood TH-K20A handheld 2 meter FM transceiver, saying that it "is solidly built and easy to operate; it has a long battery life and great receiver performance."

Of course, there are the usual columns you know and expect in the October QST: Happenings, Hints & Kinks, The Doctor Is In, Short Takes, Vintage Radio, How's DX and more. Look for your October issue in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join, or to renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> + ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of August -- takes a look at the upcoming Director and Vice Director elections, the 2012 sessions of the ARRL's Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology, the ARRL's perspective on the FCC's Congressionally mandated study on Amateur Radio, Field Day logs, changes for the upcoming November Sweepstakes, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-49>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "I've seen sunny days that I thought would never end <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-T35WXFOmwI>" Cook, K7RA, reports: There was a surprising jump in solar activity occurred this week: The average daily sunspot numbers rose nearly 55 points (that's almost 74 percent) to 128.7, while the average daily solar flux values were up more than 28 points to 136.9. A pair of coronal mass ejections (CMEs) on September 3 and 4 excited Earth's geomagnetic field, causing A index values to jump. The middle latitude A index on September 2-5 was 14, 23, 14 and 24, and the planetary A index on those dates was 12, 32, 13 and 28, while high-latitude college A index (Fairbanks, Alaska) was 48, 52, 39 and 49. Solar flux predictions show the flux values peaking on September 6-7 at 130, then on September 8-12 the solar flux lowers to 125, 120, 115, 110 and 105. Solar flux on September 13-16 is predicted at 100, then 95 on September 17-22, then 100, 110, 115, 120 and 125 on

September 23-27, and then peaking at 130 on September 28. The planetary A index is predicted to be 10 and 8 on September 6-7, then 7 on September 8-10, 5 on September 11-13, 10 on September 14-16, 5 on September 17-19, 10 on September 20, 8 on September 21-23, and back down to 5 on September 24-28. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, September 7. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by James Taylor's Fire and Rain <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire_and_rain>.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: BOB BRUNINGA, WB4APR, WINS AUGUST QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the August QST Cover Plaque award is Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, for his article "Rethinking Electrical Power for the Ham." Congratulations Bob! The QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll> . Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the September issue today.

==> + AMATEUR RADIO FUN: NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- Will you be participating in the CW or Phone Sweepstakes contests in November?
- Are you "fluent" in any computer programming languages?
- Does your HF transceiver have a DSP noise reduction feature?
- Have you taken the new Amateur Extra (Element 4) exam that went into effect on July 1?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the December 2012 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- September 7-8 -- PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80 Meter Sprint (local time)
- September 8-9 -- Arkansas QSO Party; WAE DX Contest (SSB)
- September 8-10 -- ARRL September VHF QSO Party

<http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf>
- September 9 -- North American Sprint (CW); SKCC Weekend Sprintathon;
Swiss HTC QRP Sprint
- September 10 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- September 12-13 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- September 14 -- NCC Sprint Ladder
- September 14-16 -- FISTS Get Your Feet Wet Weekend
- September 15 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- September 15-16 -- ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest (local time)
<http://www.arrl.org/news/explore-the-upper-reaches-of-the-amateur-radio-spec
trum-in-the-arrl-10-ghz-and-up-contest>;
South Carolina QSO Party; Washington State Salmon Run; Scandinavian
Activity Contest (CW); SRT HF Contest (SSB); QRP Afield
- September 16 -- North American Sprint (SSB); WAB 144 MHz QRO Phone
Contest
- September 17 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest; 144 MHz Fall Sprint
(local time)
- September 20 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- September 14-15 -- W9DXCC Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/w9dxcc-convention-2>, Elk Grove Village,
Illinois
- September 15 -- ARRL Virginia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-section-convention-virginia-beach-hamf
est>,
Virginia Beach, Virginia
- September 22 -- ARRL Washington State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/washington-state-convention-36th-annual-spokane
-hamfest>,
Spokane Valley, Washington
- September 22-23 -- ARRL Illinois State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/illinois-state-convention-peoria-superfest-2012
>,
Peoria, Illinois
- September 28-29 -- SEDCO/W4DXCC VIII Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/sedco-w4dxcc-viii-convention>, Pigeon
Forge, Tennessee
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>,

Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>,
Melbourne, Florida
- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest
-computer-expo-1>,
Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes
t-computer-show'>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-
1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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194. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1830 - September 7 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-07 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120907090003.93F2D33C5E@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 363
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1830 - September 7 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1830 with a release date of September 7 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham radio responds to a typhoon in Korea and an earthquake in the Philippines. Also, Yaesu donates a pair of FT-2000 transceivers to help rebuild a flood ravaged national society station in Thailand; the European Commission proposes an all out spectrum sharing plan; a shortwave transmitter in Bangladesh vacates the amateur exclusive section of 40 meters and an old modulation technique makes a money saving comeback for commercial broadcasters. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1830 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: IARU REGION 3 HAMS RESPOND TO TWIN DISASTERS

A powerful storm called Typhoon Bolaven battered Korea on August 27th and 28. Then on August 31st a major earthquake occurred off the coast of the Philippines. Responding to both disasters were ham radio operators equipped to provide emergency communication. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, reports:

--

The South Korean state disaster management agency reported ten deaths as a result of Typhoon Bolivan. It was the strongest storm to hit the country for almost a decade and left hundreds of thousands without electricity and suffering property damage. It also churned up rough seas that smashed two fishing ships into rocks off southern Jeju island.

Yong-Surke Lee, HL1FB, is the spokesperson for the Korean Amateur Radio League. He said when Bolaven hit that emergency traffic between the affected areas kept flowing to the authorities via its D90IK, 2 meter repeater. In charge of the ham radio relief operations was 6K2BUF acting as the network control officer. At the height of the severe weather outbreak almost two million South Korean homes and businesses were without power or telephones.

Meantime the strongest earthquake in more than two decades, measuring 7.6 on the Ritcher scale, hit the Philippines on August 31st local

time. Almost immediately after the event members of the Ham Emergency Radio Operations group were exchanging messages with the affected coastal areas.

Eddie Valdez DU1EV, is the Chief Operating Officer of the Philippines Amateur Radio Association. He says that Roberto Vincencio, DU1VHY, handled traffic and got reports from the affected areas.

Valdez said the area of DU5 was nearest the epicenter. Lester Price, DV5PO said that there was a power outage in Borongan, on Samar Island. Reynaldo Tan, DV5RAY reported that people had been evacuating because of the tsunami alert. The alert was lifted after officials reported that only small waves had been generated. Tens of thousands of people who headed out of the danger zone have since returned.

According to DU1EV, many hams in the affected areas showed up on the 2 meter and 40 meter emergency channels. He added that other districts were on standby if needed.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

The Philippine National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council initial assessment was that there was no major structural damage in the affected areas. It noted that most structures destroyed were built from light material. (VK3PC, Post World, BBC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: YAESU DONATES NEW GEAR TO HELP REBUILD RAST STATION HS0AC

Yaesu has donated a pair of FT-2000D transceivers to the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand. This to help rebuild its headquarters station HS0AC that lost its radio gear during severe flooding last year.

The presentation of the two transceivers to the Radio Society of Thailand was made by Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, who is the company's Executive Vice President Amateur Radio Sales and also holds the call sign HS0ZKS.

In his note, K7BV said that Thailand is what he called extremely "radio active" with over 300,000 hams most of whom are on VHF. However, that is in the process of changing.

Dennis says that after seven years of waiting, Thai hams are once again able to test for a license that gives them operating privileges on the High Frequency bands. According to K7BV some 40 applicants have already passed the new exam this year and at least one more test is schedule before years end.

Photos of the presentation of the new Yaesu transceivers can be seen at tinyurl.com/yaesu-thailand-radios (K7BV)

**

RADIO LAW: EUROPEAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDS NEW SHARED SPECTRUM PLAN

The European Commission has unveiled plans to deal with the exponential growth in mobile and wireless data traffic. This, by enabling wireless technologies, including broadband, to share the use of the radio spectrum with other services.

The European Commission notes that with new technologies it is possible to share radio spectrum among several users such as internet providers or use the spectrum available between TV frequencies for other purposes.

The Commission says that national spectrum regulation often does not reflect the new technical possibilities, leaving mobile and broadband users at risk of poor service as demand grows. It also prevents a single market for investment in such communications growth. Because of this the Commission believes that a coordinated European approach to sharing spectrum will lead to greater mobile network capacity, cheaper wireless broadband, and new markets such as tradable secondary rights for a given spectrum allocation.

The proposal is 12 pages long and does not seem to exclude any service from the possibility of sharing spectrum with another. What impact this proposal might eventually have on amateur radio operations across Europe is at this point unknown. You can download the proposal in PDF format at tinyurl.com/european-shared-spectrum. (Southgate)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: RADIO BANGLADESH VACATES 7.105 MHZ

Some good news for users of the low end of 40 meters. The Radio Society of Great Britain reports that Radio Bangladesh has left 7 point 105 MHz after the broadcaster finished its experimental transmissions and is now using 7 dot 250 MHz in the shared portion of the band.

The move is likely due to the many amateur radio operators world wide who reported the infringement on the band. Particular thanks go to the German telecommunications authority which filed the official complaints to Radio Bangladesh. (GB2RS)

**

RADIO PROPAGATION: SOLAR CME HITS EARTH ON SEPTEMBER 3RD

If you were wondering about the strange band conditions this past week you can blame it on old Sol. This after a Coronal Mass Ejection or C-M-E hit Earth's magnetic field on at approximately 1200 UTC on Monday, September 3rd.

According to Spaceweather.com the impact induced measurable ground currents in the soil of northern Scandinavia and sparked bright auroras around the Arctic Circle. In fact, at the time the alert was issued, a moderately strong geomagnetic storm that lasted several days was underway.

For current and future information on what the Sun is up to and how it might affect radio propagation here on Earth, simply take your web browser to spaceweather.com for the very latest updates. (Spaceweather)

**

RADIO HISTORY: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF STANDARDIZED RADIO PREFIXES

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the use of ITU callsign prefixes, special event station PB-100-PREFIX will be on the air between October 4th and the 31st.

The back story on the standardization of calls came following the loss of the ocean liner Titanic in April of 1912. The Titanic used the call letters MGY with the "M" representing the Marconi company.

As a result there was an acknowledgement that there should be international standards for radio communications. This lead to several international meetings in the aftermath of the Titanic's sinking and the emergence of the callsign prefix system that has evolved into what we have today.

For more details, visit on this special commemorative operation please take your web browser to www.PB100PREFIX.nl. And if you make contact with PB100PREFIX QSL via PB0P. (OPDX)

**

BREAKING DX NEWS: GROUGH ISLAND "SLIM"

Hams making contact with a station signing ZD5KN on Gough Island will not be getting any credit for the contact. This is because Zed-D-9-K-N is what DX'ers call a "slim" or a "pirate" operation.

According to the Ohio Penn DX Newsletter several sources report that ZS1A, has confirmed that the callsign ZD9KN has never been issued. As such the advice being given is to not waste time working this station if you happen to hear him.

But there is some good news regarding this rather rare entity. Word is that ZS6KX will be going to Gough Island sometime this month and will be there for a year. He is hoping to be issued the callsign ZD9KX and is waiting for the approval of his license. No QSL route has yet been announced so look for more details to be forthcoming. And we will have more DX related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report.

(OPDX)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Alaska Morning Net serving America's final frontier.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: NEW RULES AND MORE SPECTRUM FOR PHILIPPINE HAMS

Restructuring has come to ham radio in the Philippines. This according to an announcement by the Philippines Amateur Radio Association which says that following meetings between the Amateur Radio Consultative Panel and the National Telecommunications Commission or NTC, numerous changes to that nations amateur service have been enacted. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, is in Nelson, New Zealand with more:

--

As reported by Philippines Amateur Radio Association that organization has now been officially recognized by the National Telecommunications Commission as the nations only national amateur radio organization with the NTC to maintaining a database of licensees that will be made available in the public domain.

Under the revised rules an applicant for a Philippine amateur license who passes an exam but does not own a radio will be given an operator certificate with his own call sign. Also a new entry level Foundation License or Class D certificate with VHF-only privileges has been created with a minimum age requirement of 9 years. And in the area of administering Philippine Amateur Service exams, new question pool and oversight committees have been officially organized.

One other very important change is that the NTC will now allow Philippine radio amateurs what it calls convergence with the Internet. In other words it has authorized interconnects for operations such as Echolink, IRLP and other VoIP operations.

Lastly, hams in the Philippines have been granted to some additional spectrum. Depending on license class, hams will be permitted to operate from 135.7 kHz to 137.8 kHz; 472 kHz to 479 kHz and 7.201 MHz to 7.300 MHz with Class B and Class C allowed to operate High Frequency mobile.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF.

--

These changes to the Philippine Amateur Radio Service regulations came into effect on August 30th. More details can be found at www.para.org.ph/news.htm (PARA)

**

ENFORCEMENT: THE VANISHED VENTURA UNLICENSED STATION BUSTED BY THE FCC

A follow up to a story from a few weeks ago involving an unlicensed station in Ventura, California, on 89.7 MHz that called itself KSSR, The Peoples Radio. It has now been established that this station has been busted by the FCC with a Notice of Unlicensed Operation issued to the station itself as well as to the property owners that hosted it. Amateur Radio Newslines Jim Damron, N8TMW, reports:

--

In a pair of letters dated August 14th the FCC notified the station as an entity well as property owners John and Lisa Darby that KSSR was found to be operating without a license and must leave the air immediately. Both letters also advised the recipients that they had ten days from the date of the notice to respond with any evidence that they have authority to operate granted by the FCC.

The notices said that the FCC staff will use all relevant material information before it to determine what, if any, enforcement action is required to ensure your compliance with FCC Rules. This will include any information that the station management or the property owners disclose in their reply.

This notification from the FCC ends speculation that perhaps the pirate saw private DF'ing activity taking place and voluntarily suspended operations. But the station my have had the final word. As of August 26th the unlicensed stations website carried the following message: "Due to unforeseen circumstances KSSR had the leave the FM airwaves for a while."

Whether that means the station operator plans to return to the airwaves at a later date or is just a smug way of bidding its audience a fond farewell, is unknown. But if the FCC has its way, the unlicensed KSSR will never be heard on the Ventura, California airwaves, ever again.

>From Charleston West Virginia, Im Jim Damron, N8TMW reporting.

--

As is normal in these cases both the station and the property owner were give the customary 30 days to file a response. (CGC, FCC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: SUFFOLK COUNTY NY SEEKS DONATION OF TRAILER

New York's Suffolk County Radio Club is seeking a donation of a mid-sized trailer to continue its Emergency Communications Field work. This after its present communications vehicle has become unusable due to its age.

For those not aware, the Suffolk County Radio Club was established in 1947 and is the oldest radio club on Long Island. Its members provide free manpower as a public service for special events in addition to

their volunteer emergency communications during disasters such as hurricanes and wildfires.

If you have a covered trailer in the 12 by 8 foot category that you would consider donating, please contact club Vice President, Jim Fehling, N2JFD by telephone at area code 631-926-4370. Or you can e-mail him to n2jfdny (at) gmail (dot) com. (Suffolk Radio Club)

**

RADIO TRAGEDY: COLORADO HAM RADIO OPERATOR AND WIFE DIE FROM INJURIES SUFFERED IN CAR COLLISION

A Colorado Springs, Colorado, ham radio operator and his wife who were involved in an automobile accident on their way home from church have died from their injuries. This, after their car was broadsided by a driver alleged to have been going the wrong way down a one-way street. Amateur Radio Newsline producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has the details on this tragic event:

--

According to police reports, Teddy Allison, N0NKG and his wife Mary Ann were in their Saturn headed home from church services at about 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, August 12th. That's when a Chevrolet Malibu, driven by 18 year old Khalil Sanders allegedly drove the wrong way on a one-way street, entered an intersection without stopping and slammed into the Allison's car.

The couple was taken to the hospital, both in critical condition. Teddy Allison, who was age 67, died on August 15th. Mary Ann Allison succumb to her injuries on August 18th.

Khalil Sanders was also taken to the hospital and was treated and later released. Police continue to investigate the crash and are still determining what charges, if any, he potentially faces.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, I the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

Teddy Allison, N0NKG, was an electronics technician at Hewlett Packard and Mary Ann Allison was a homemaker and accountant at Young life. The Allison's had just celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary on July 7th. (N0RDC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: ARRL SUMMER SECTION MANAGER ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Some new faces and some old ones are returning to the ARRL Field Operations arena. This following the counting of ballots in this years Section Manager elections.

In the North-East, ARRL Connecticut Section Manager Betsey Doane, K1EIC, was re-elected to another term. Meantime John Mueller, K2BT, won out as the new Western New York Section Manager.

Also, Puerto Rico will be getting a new Section Manager in Rene Fonseca, NP3O, of the city of Fajardo. Fonseca will be taking over from Roberto Jiminez, KP4AC, who has served as Section Manager since 2007 but decided not to run for another term of office.

All elected start their new terms on October 1st. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: K3EST RETIRES FROM DIRECTOR OF CQWW DX CONTEST

Some names in the news. CQ Magazine has announced that Bob Cox, K3EST, has retired as Director of the CQ World Wide DX Contest and as CQ's Director of Contesting. Cox has been at the helm of the CQ World Wide DX contest for 35 years. During his tenure he guided the competition through numerous changes in technology and growth to become the world's most popular amateur radio contest. Cox's retirement is effective immediately. A successor has not yet been named. (CQ)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: MIKE BAXTER KA0XTT OF LAST MAN STANDING GETS NEW ANTENNA FARM

According to a posting on Facebook by the lead character of the situation comedy Last Man Standing, as soon as it get closer to the shows season two premiere of Friday, November 2nd, they will be holding a combined HF, VHF, UHF and D-Star ham radio operating event. This will put all of the amateur radio gear used on the show and the licensed staff members on the air for you to contact.

The shows producer is John Amodeo, NN6JA. He has just uploaded to Facebook close to a dozen photos of the new outdoor antenna installation on the roof of the Studio City, California sound stage where the Last Man Standing is recorded. If you are on Facebook you can see them by putting the words "Last Man Standing Season 2 Antenna Farm" into the search line at the top of any Facebook page.

For those of you who have not yet seen the show, Last Man Standing follows the adventures of Mike Baxter played by actor and comedian Tim Allen. Baxter's character is the director of marketing at an outdoor sporting goods store in Denver, Colorado, whose world is dominated by women. This is especially true at home with his wife and three daughters. His hobby turns out to be amateur radio with Baxter using the call letters KA0XTT. Last Man Standing airs on the ABC television network. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NASA ANNOUNCES OPPORTUNITIES FOR CUBESAT LAUNCHES

Want to put a small satellite into orbit? Well now is your chance providing the bird you want to launch meets some specific criteria. Amateur Radio Newslines Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, has the details:

--

NASA is seeking proposals for small satellite payloads to fly on rockets planned to launch between 2013 and 2016. These miniature spacecraft, known as CubeSats, could be auxiliary payloads on previously planned missions or on yet to be announced orbital opportunities.

CubeSats are a class of research spacecraft called nano-satellites. These cube-shaped satellites are approximately four inches long, have a volume of about one quart and weigh less than three pounds.

Proposed CubeSat investigations must be consistent with NASA's Strategic Plan and the NASA education vision and goals. The research must address aspects of science, exploration, technology development, education or operations.

Applicants must submit proposals electronically by 4:30 p.m. EST, November 12th. NASA will select the payloads by next January 31st. Selection does not guarantee a launch opportunity but the selected spacecraft will be eligible for flight after final negotiations when a launch opportunity arises. It should be noted that NASA provides only a possible launch opportunity but it will not provide funding for the development of the small satellites.

Meantime from the first three launch initiatives, 64 payloads made the short list for launch opportunities between now and 2014. These satellites come from 25 states and are eligible for la ride to orbit pending an appropriate opportunity and final negotiations.

I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW.

--

For additional information about NASA's CubeSat Launch Initiative program, visit go.nasa.gov/puk9K2 (NASA)

**

WORLDBEAT: ZAMBIA MAKES READY FOR DIGITAL BROADCASTING

The Zambian government has issued 10 licenses and 16 construction permits to radio and TV stations in the country.

Those chosen are expected to switch to digital broadcasting before the 2013 deadline set by the Southern Africa Development Community.

According to the nations Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services, the move is intended to enhance participation in the affairs of the country, as well as offer people an opportunity to air their views on issues of national interest. (RW)

**

ON THE AIR: COMMEMORATING THE LIBERATION OF KNOKKE BELGIUM

On the air, special event station ON44CLM will be operational from October 16th through November 15th in commemoration of the liberation of the town of Knokke in Belgium by the Canadian Army in 1944. The C-L-M suffix stands for Canadian Liberation March. More information is on-line at www.on44clm.be. (Southgate)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING THE DUBLIN BUS

Hams in Erin's Isle have taken to the air to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Dublin Bus with special event special event station E-I-25-D-B operational from now through June 30th of 2013. The station will be operated by current and former employees of Dublin Bus Company led by EI9HQ and EI4GZB. QSL this operation to EI9HQ or electronically using either Logbook of the World or HamLog.eu. The Dublin Bus Company is a major public transportation supplier through out the city of Dublin, Ireland. (Southgate)

**

ON THE AIR: VOODOO CONTEST CLUB TO BE ACTIVE FROM LIBERIA

For the 24th straight year look for the VooDoo Contest Group to again be active from Liberia between November 21st and the 27th. Operations will be from a location just South of Monrovia, the capital of Liberia. Their main goal is to be an entry in the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest on November 24th and 25th as a Multi-Multi category using the callsign E-L-2-A. Outside of the contest the operators will use their own personal callsigns. QSL as directed by each operator. (OPDX)

**

DX

In DX, SM1TDE will be active portable 5Z4 from Diani Beach, Mombasa, Kenya between November 5th and the 22nd. This will be a family vacation and activity will be limited to how much his XYL and kids allow. His operation will be on 40 through 10 meters on CW only. QSL via his home callsign, either direct, via the bureau or electronically using Logbook of the World.

JA7SGV is now operational as 9J2JA from Zambia. His length of stay is unknown. Activity has been on the 30, 20, 17 and 15 meters using CW only. QSL via his home callsign.

W4XP who was expected to be active now as VQ9XP from the club station VQ9X on Diego Garcia Atoll has been forced to cancel the operation. He says that this is because the station has been placed off-limits by the installation Commander.

PA0FAW will be operating PC12WSF through September 30th for the World Statues Festival in Arnhem in the Nethlands. Modes mentioned are CW, SSB and PSK. QSL to PA0FAW either direct, via the bureau or electronically via eQSL. This operation will not accept Logbook of the World confirmation requests.

Lastly, CT1FJZ will be working in Angola for the next year or so and will be operational on 80 through 10 meter SSB using the callsign D2FJZ. His activity will be mainly at the weekends but he will try to get on the air whenever possible during weekdays. QSL as directed on the air.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: CONTROLLED CARRIER AM -SOMETHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN

And finally this week, an old modulation technology is making a comeback for A-M broadcast stations in a new and money saving way. Amateur Radio Newsline's George Bowen, W2XBS, has the details where something old is new again:

--

Back in the days of full carrier A-M transmission one very popular and low cost way to put ones voice onto a carrier wave was to modulate the final power amplifier's screen grid. A variation on this that required no heavy modulation transformer was to vary the output power of the transmitter at an audio rate by varying the final amplifier's screen voltage at an audio rate. This system was called controlled carrier A-M and it was made very popular on the ham bands in the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's in such budget priced transmitters as the Heathkit DX-35, DX-40 and DX-60 to name only a few.

With the advent of single sideband transmission, full carrier A-M fell out of favor in the ham radio world but it has remained a staple in the broadcast industry and other services that want to get their message to the public. And now, carrier control modulation is making a comeback among broadcasters but not in the way it was done by radio amateurs of the past.

For broadcasters who spend 10's of thousands of dollars a year paying for electric service, the ability to raise and lower power levels can be a major cost cutting factor. And because of this a number of stations have received waivers from the FCC to experiment with several

new forms of carrier control technology.

In one instance, transmitter manufacturer Harris Broadcast and New York City powerhouse WOR-AM say they have had success with a power-saving Modulation Dependent Carrier Level algorithm. This with no effect on Arbitron Portable People Meter data encoding/decoding, the stations H-D Radio signal coverage or digital audio quality.

Harris engineers worked with Tom Ray, W2TRR , who is the Corporate Director of Engineering WOR AM in New York, to test the compatibility of two Harris Modulation-Dependent Carrier Level algorithms. Amplitude Modulation Companding provided the largest reduction in transmitter power consumption, by saving 37 percent in average AC power input to the transmitter. WOR estimated this translates up to a $3,000 per month savings on the electric bill at his New Jersey transmitter site.

So will this new form of Amplitude Modulation Companding bring back full carrier AM to the ham bands? While a tiny segment may decide to experiment with it more than likely SSB will remain the preferred voice system among ham radio operators world wide. At least until it's replaced by a digital voice system at sometime in the future.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm George Bowen, W2XBS, at the North East Bureau in Albany New York.

--

Nautel, another transmitter manufacturer has estimated that a 50 kilowatt AM transmitter using this technology and operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week could easily save $20,000 a year or more in electricity costs. This based on modest electricity rates of 10 cents per kilowatt hour.

The complete story can be found on-line at
tinyurl.com/harris-modulation (RW)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org.

Before we go a reminder that we are continuing our survey to learn who still receive these newscasts over our 661-296-2407 dial in line rater than downloading the MP3 file from our website. If you are one of those who call in each week on the phone, please send us a note telling us who you are and the reason you are using telephone access rather than simply downloading the newscast from the Internet. Our address is

the Amateur Radio Newsline, 28197 Robin Avenue, Saugus California, 91350. Or you can e-mail us at newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. We look forward to hearing from you.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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195. Re: CONTROLLED CARRIER AM -SOMETHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-08 12:12:29 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <k2eqnq$5eo$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 364

On 9/7/2012 3:00 AM, William M. Pasternak wrote:
> CONTROLLED CARRIER AM -SOMETHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN
>
> And finally this week, an old modulation technology is making a
> comeback for A-M broadcast stations in a new and money saving way.
> Amateur Radio Newsline's George Bowen, W2XBS, has the details where
> something old is new again:
>
> --
>
> Back in the days of full carrier A-M transmission one very popular and
> low cost way to put ones voice onto a carrier wave was to modulate the
> final power amplifier's screen grid. A variation on this that required
> no heavy modulation transformer was to vary the output power of the
> transmitter at an audio rate by varying the final amplifier's screen
> voltage at an audio rate.

How's that again? How is varying the screen grid voltage a "variant" of screen modulation?

> This system was called controlled carrier A-M and it was made
> very popular on the ham bands in the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's in
> such budget priced transmitters as the Heathkit DX-35,
> DX-40 and DX-60 to name only a few.
>
> ... And now, carrier control modulation is making a comeback
> among broadcasters but not in the way it was done by radio amateurs of
> the past.

[snip]

> Harris engineers worked with Tom Ray, W2TRR , who is the Corporate
> Director of Engineering WOR AM in New York, to test the compatibility
> of two Harris Modulation-Dependent Carrier Level algorithms. Amplitude
> Modulation Companding provided the largest reduction in transmitter
> power consumption, by saving 37 percent in average AC power input to
> the transmitter. WOR estimated this translates up to a $3,000 per
> month savings on the electric bill at his New Jersey transmitter site.
>
> The complete story can be found on-line at
> tinyurl.com/harris-modulation (RW)

If I'm reading the online story correctly, the "Amplitude Modulation Companding" method /reduces/ carrier power when modulation levels go /up/, and I was taught that the carrier level going down during modulation peaks was an indication of over-modulation. How is Harris'

technique avoiding over-modulation?

BTW, ham transmitter like the Knight-Kit T-60 and the Heathkit DX60 both used /Enhanced/ Carrier, which /raised/ transmitter power during modulation peaks: the primary focus was not, of course, on power saving, but rather on not "burning a hole" in the plates of the final tubes during quiet pauses, where the load on the finals was highest.

IIRC, transmitters using Enhanced Carrier did suffer some minor distortion, but the RadioWorld article describes the result as "Horrible" when Harris used the technique (which they call Adaptive Carrier Control) at WOR. I'd appreciate a refresher course on Enhanced Carrier if we have any experts reading this.

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

196. The ARRL Letter for September 13, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-13 20:36:18 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120913184118.E3E35244D8@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 365
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

September 13, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + ARRL National Convention: ARRL Welcomes NASA Astronaut Lee Morin,
KF5DDB, to 2012 National Convention
- + Emergency Preparedness: Get Set for the 2012 Simulated Emergency
Test
- Amateur Radio in Space: Three Hams Return to Earth this Weekend;
Watch Live on NASA TV
- + Newly Elected Section Managers to Converge in Newington
- + Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY, Named QST Managing Editor
- Solar Update
- + ARRL to Welcome USTTI Students in October
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION: ARRL WELCOMES NASA ASTRONAUT LEE MORIN,
KF5DDB, TO 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION

NASA Astronaut Lee Morin, KF5DDB, will be a special guest at the
2012 ARRL National Convention at Pacificon -- held October 12-14 -- in
Santa Clara, California. Morin, an ARRL member, served as a Mission
Specialist on Atlantis for STS-110 that launched in April 2002. During
this 13th shuttle mission to the International Space Station, he
performed two extra-vehicular activities (EVAs) -- also known as
spacewalks -- the first time that the station's robotic arm was used to
maneuver spacewalkers around the station. Pacificon attendees will have
the chance to meet and greet Morin in the ARRL exhibit area. He will
also present a forum at Pacificon and will be the speaker at Saturday
night's banquet where he will share his experiences about spaceflight
and his interests in Amateur Radio. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-welcomes-nasa-astronaut-lee-morin-kf5ddb-to-20
12-national-convention>.
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==> + EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: GET SET FOR THE 2012 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

Are you ready to respond to a local communications emergency? How about within your area, state or beyond? The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) -- an exercise that enables you and your local, District and Section leaders to test equipment, modes, operating skills and emergency deployment plans to see if everything is in place and ready for an actual emergency event -- is October 6-7. The SET is one of the premier events of the year that invites the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, the National Traffic System, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, SKYWARN, members of the ARRL Field Organization and other groups to work in concert together to practice and prepare. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/get-set-for-the-2012-simulated-emergency-test>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: THREE HAMS RETURN TO EARTH THIS WEEKEND; WATCH LIVE ON NASA TV

After spending 125 days in space, NASA Flight Engineer Joe Acaba, KE5DAR, Expedition 32 Commander Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, and Flight Engineer Sergei Revin, RN3BS (both of the Russian Federal Space Agency), will begin their voyage home to Earth this weekend, marking the end of Expedition 32 on the International Space Station. The trio will undock their Soyuz TMA-04M spacecraft on Sunday, September 16 at 7:09 PM EDT (2309 UTC) for the flight home. They are scheduled to arrive in Kazakhstan at the Baikonur Cosmodrome almost four hours later at 10:53 PM EDT (0253 UTC on Monday, September 17). NASA will televise the farewell ceremony, as well as the undocking of the Soyuz craft, its launch and landing in Kazakhstan live on NASA TV. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/three-hams-return-to-earth-this-weekend-watch-live-on-nasa-tv>.

==> + NEWLY ELECTED SECTION MANAGERS TO CONVERGE IN NEWINGTON

This weekend, 12 newly elected or appointed Section Managers will be in Newington at ARRL Headquarters for an orientation workshop. The primary purposes of the three-day workshop sessions are to share ideas and to provide basic administrative, management, leadership and motivational training. The workshop provides an opportunity for the Section Managers to chat among themselves or within the group, and to share their views on various issues and exchange ideas. Through training and orientation sessions conducted by ARRL staff members -- and by meeting with other Section Managers -- participants can explore what works, as well as what does not, and bring home some fresh ideas and some encouragement. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/newly-elected-section-managers-to-converge-in-newington>.

==> + BECKY SCHOENFELD, W1BXY, NAMED QST MANAGING EDITOR

ARRL Book Editor Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY, has been promoted to QST Managing Editor, the position formerly held by Joel Kleinman, N1BKE

(SK). A Connecticut native, Schoenfeld has more than two decades of publishing experience. Prior to her employment at ARRL Headquarters, she was Senior Editor at Teaching K-8 magazine, one of the most popular magazines for childhood educators, and Senior Project Editor for textbook publisher Macmillan/McGraw-Hill. In addition, she founded Amaranth magazine, a successful poetry journal. She holds an MFA from Emerson College and a BA from Fairfield University. Her Amateur Radio activities include chasing grid squares in pursuit of her 6 meter VUCC award and DX hunting on 10 meters.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "You'll find us chasing the Sun <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIyYMjI-xFg>" Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity retreated this week, with the average daily sunspot numbers off nearly 46 points -- about 35 percent -- to 83.1, while the average daily solar flux declined 18 points to 118.9. Geomagnetic conditions were quieter, with the planetary and mid-latitude A index most days in the single digits; the average planetary A index declined from 14.1 to 6.6. The predicted daily solar flux is 100 on September 13, 95 on September 14-16, 100 again on September 17-18, 105 on September 19, 95 on September 20-21, 100 on September 22, 110 on September 23-24, 115, 125 and 130 on September 25-27, and peaking at 140 on September 28-October 1. The predicted planetary A index on September 13-17 is 5, 7, 10, 12 and 8, then down to 5 on September 18-19, 10 on September 20, 8 on September 21-23, 5 on September 24-28, 10 on September 29, and back down to 5 on September 30-October 2. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, September 14. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by The Wanted's Chasing the Sun <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chasing_the_Sun_%28song%29>.

==> + ARRL TO WELCOME USTTI STUDENTS IN OCTOBER

Next month -- October 1-5 -- the ARRL will welcome eight international students who want to learn how to administer and regulate Amateur Radio programs in their home countries. This course, offered by the United States Telecommunications Training Institute for learners from developing countries, will help the participants create, administer and foster an Amateur Radio Service in their countries.

ARRL staff instructors will help course participants discover the ever-expanding universe of Amateur Radio communication, explaining why Amateur Radio operators -- upwards of three million individuals in virtually every country of the world -- have earned licenses to operate stations in the Service and why they are recognized, both by their governments and internationally, as a valuable voluntary telecommunications resource. Course participants will also discover how a telecommunications administration can bring the benefits of a healthy Amateur Service to its nation.

Now in its 30th year, USTTI is a nonprofit venture involving leading
US-based communications and information technology corporations and
leaders of the federal government cooperating to provide tuition-free
management, policy and technical training for talented professionals
from the developing world. This is the 28th year that the ARRL has
participated in the program.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- September 14 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- September 14-16 -- FISTS Get Your Feet Wet Weekend
- September 15 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- September 15-16 -- ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest (local time)
<http://www.arrl.org/news/explore-the-upper-reaches-of-the-amateur-radio-spec
trum-in-the-arrl-10-ghz-and-up-contest>;
South Carolina QSO Party; Washington State Salmon Run; Scandinavian
Activity Contest (CW); SRT HF Contest (SSB); QRP Afield
- September 16 -- North American Sprint (SSB); WAB 144 MHz QRO Phone
Contest
- September 17 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest; 144 MHz Fall Sprint
(local time)
- September 20 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next week:

- September 21 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- September 22 -- FOC QSO Party; AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- September 23 -- BARTG Sprint 75
- September 24 -- QRP Homebrewer Sprint
- September 25 -- 222 MHz Fall Sprint (local time)
- September 26 -- SKCC Sprint
- September 26-27 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- September 14-15 -- W9DXCC Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/w9dxcc-convention-2>, Elk Grove Village,
Illinois
- September 15 -- ARRL Virginia Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-section-convention-virginia-beach-hamf
est>,
Virginia Beach, Virginia
- September 22 -- ARRL Washington State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/washington-state-convention-36th-annual-spokane

-hamfest>,
Spokane Valley, Washington
- September 22-23 -- ARRL Illinois State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/illinois-state-convention-peoria-superfest-2012
>,
Peoria, Illinois
- September 28-29 -- SEDCO/W4DXCC VIII Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/sedco-w4dxcc-viii-convention>, Pigeon
Forge, Tennessee
- October 7 -- ARRL Connecticut State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/connecticut-state-convention-nutmeg-hamfest>,
Meriden, Connecticut
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>,
Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>,
Melbourne, Florida
- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest
-computer-expo-1>,
Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes
t-computer-show'>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-
1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,

Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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s>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
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newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

197. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1831 - September 14 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-14 12:05:10 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120914090004.1024433C91@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 366
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1831 - September 14 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1831 with a release date of
September 14 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Two illegal operations in Canada are evicted
from 2 meters; the Radio Society of Great Britain takes on Region One
of the International Amateur Radio Union over the endorsement of a more
liberal B-P-L standard; the FAA to begin a new study of the use of
broadband devices on aircraft in flight and a safety warning about
those tiny button batteries. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm) report number 1831 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: TWO COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS EVICTED FROM 2 METERS IN CANADA

Radio Amateurs of Canada has announced that two cases of frequency
incursion to the 2 meter band by business users have been resolved.
Amateur Radio Newsline's Aaren Jensen, VA7AEJ, reports:

--

In the first incident, a transportation company based in Reinfeld,
Manitoba was observed to be operating illegally on 144.100 Mhz. The
company in question had purchased VHF radios from a US based supplier
who failed to indicate correct licensing procedures.

Once contacted by Radio Amateurs of Canada the company agreed to
immediately cease operating in the two meter band and shifted its
operation to a business band frequency. Industry Canada was notified of
the incursion and continues to work with the company to secure a
licensed channel. In addition to illegally transmitting inside the
amateur radio two meter band, this operation posed a threat to low
signal operations across a wide portion of North America

In the second matter, a home moving company was observed to be
operating on 144.940 Mhz. The company in question is based in Winkler,
Manitoba, but the operation was observed in Alberta during the moving
of a house.

In this case, the company had already been licensed to specific
frequencies with Industry Canada. However it had requested 144.940 Mhz
as a channel. Their request was denied and a business band channels
were issued. However, the company failed to check tits license

paperwork and assumed it had been approved for their requested frequency.

As in the first case, the moving company was also contacted by Radio Amateurs of Canada and agreed to move their operations to their correctly licensed frequencies. Given their wide geographic operations Industry Canada had licensed their operation on four separate frequencies including 140.730, 154.325, 158.940 and 151.730 MHz.

In both cases, it appears that frequencies in the two meter band were chosen by these businesses because their new vhf radios defaulted to that frequency range. This is definitely an indicator that the actual radio gear being used is likely to be modified amateur radio transceivers.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Aaren Jensen, VA7AEJ, in Lumby, British Columbia Canada.

--

The use of equipment intended for amateur radio operation outside of the amateur bands or by persons who do not hold an Canadian Amateur Radio Certificate is illegal. What punitive action Industry Canada might impose on the two companies for their incursion into the 2 meter band is at this time unknown. (RAC, VE4WO)

**

RADIO LAW: RSGB ASKS IARU R-2 TO RECONSIDER PLT STANDARD

The Radio Society of Great Britain has formally asked the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Electromagnetic Compatibility Working Group to reconsider its policy on the draft European Broadband over Powerline or PLT standard. One that the RSGB claims to threaten a 38 dB increase in R-F pollution over much of the short wave radio spectrum

The request from the RSGB came in an August 28th letter to C.M. Verholt, who is the Chairman of the IARU Region 1 EMC Working Group from the RSGB's Don Beattie G3BJ. In it, Beattie says that there is no way that the emissions from devices meeting this new standard can satisfy the essential requirements of the EMC Directive outside the notched frequencies. As such, G3BJ says that the IARU Region 1 EMC Working Group is in effect condoning overriding the essential requirements of the Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive by backing the standard. He says that this action of the Commission is clearly contrary to the law of the European Union and therefore open to judicial review.

Beattie goes on to say that the new emission levels, if sanctioned, will inevitably become the baseline for future standards. In this context he notes that that there are already some new drafts that are circulating which reference the more liberal proposed emission levels.

Beattie ends his letter by saying that the RSGB hopes that common sense will prevail and that IARU Region 1 will amend its position on this matter. The IARU Region 1 EMC Working Group had previously added its support to the new Pan-European Electromagnetic Compatibility standard that the RSGB so vigorously opposes. (GB2RS)

**

RADIO LAW: PLMRS NARROWBANDING TAKES EFFECT ON JANUARY 1 2013

The FCC has sent out a notice to the manufacturers, importers, distributes and users of Private Land Mobile two-way radio that the deadline to switch to 12.5 Khz narrow band transmission is January 1, 2013. This is for two way radio gear that operates in the 150 to 174 MHz and 421 to 470 MHz frequency bands, not including the 2 meter or 70 centimeter Amateur Service spectrum from 144 to 148 MHz or 430 to 450 MHz. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Davis, W2JKD, reports:

--

According to the FCC the reason for this mandated change is to promote the efficient use of private land mobile radio spectrum and to facilitate the introduction of advanced technologies. In other words, this government edict is not only applicable to analog FM based communications but to current and all future digital modes as well.

The FCC also notes that Private Land Mobile Radio licensees are not required, at this time, to modify their licenses to remove wideband emission designators. However, the presence of a wideband emission designator on a license does not authorize operation after January 1, 2013 that does not comply with the new narrowbanding standards.

The FCC release also reminds manufacturers, subject to the limited exceptions, that they must cease manufacturing and importing equipment that is capable of 25 kHz mode operation in the VHF and UHF bands by the narrowbanding transition deadline.

I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

While the Amateur Service is exempt from the new narrowbanding mandate, do not be to surprised if future generations of off the shelf VHF and UHF ham gear is built to conform to this new commercial radio standard. Especially if a manufacturers primary business is in supplying Private Land Mobile Service radio gear with ham gear as a secondary product line. Its simply less expensive for them to do it that way. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: NEW ZEALAND TO ENFORCE UHF CB NARROWBANDING

In a similar move, New Zealand's telecommunications regulator has issued an edict to all manufacturers and importers of UHF CB radio equipment with 25 kHz channel spacing. It notes that in accordance

with the nations General User Radio License for citizen band operation, equipment that does not comply with a new narrowbanding specification cannot be sold in that nation if it is manufactured or imported after December 1st. Only current stock of 25 kHz radios on hand and merchandise in the domestic New Zealand distribution pipeline can be sold after that date. (NZART)

**

RESTRUCTURING: TV SPECTRUM AUCTION UPDATE

According to top FCC officials, FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski will soon circulate the FCC's long-awaited framework for reclaiming and re-auctioning broadcast spectrum for wireless use, and repacking remaining stations. This, with the target of having a report and order voted by mid-2013 and the auctions completed by the end of 2014.

The document is described as a comprehensive treatment rather than the first of a series of items. As such it's expected to contain many detailed proposals that the FCC will then seek comment on and adjust as needed. The FCC is trying to move far enough down the road with this initial proposal to make that auction goal of 2014 a realistic one.

While ham radio is not directly involved in this frequency shuffle, there is always the chance that some bands like 222 to 225 MHz and 50 to 54 MHz could be impacted. This is because 222 to 225 MHz lies between what is known as the spectrum between the VHF low and VHF high band TV channels. 50 to 54 MHz that we call 6 meters is actually VHF low band TV channel 1. If the sell-off of the coveted UHF broadcast spectrum results in a lot of TV stations returning to the VHF bands then both these spectral parcels could come under some future reallocation scrutiny. We are not saying that it will happen that way, but ham radio has to keep a careful watch on how it might be affected in the years to come. (Published reports)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W8RLC repeater serving Lowell, Michigan.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: FAA TO BEGIN INVESTIGATION OF BROADBAND DEVICES ON FLIGHTS

It's going to be a while before airline passengers can use their wireless electronic devices during an entire flight. Amateur Radio Newsline's Stephen Robertson, KB3HGM, is near the nations capital with the details:

--

On Monday, August 27th the Federal Aviation Administration said that it is starting a process to study the issue, with a timeline that means it will take at least until March 2013 for a recommendation and likely longer for action.

Smartphones, laptops and tablet computers are common in the passenger cabin, and some pilots are using these devices in flight. But passengers have to shut off electronic devices when the plane is below 10,000 feet because of worries that they might interfere with electronics in the cockpit. And anything that has a broadband connection that cannot be disabled must be kept off for the entire flight.

Now, in its recent statement, the FAA says that it will form a committee to study the issue for six months and then make recommendations. The group will include representatives of the mobile technology companies, aircraft manufacturers, airlines, pilots, flight attendants, and even representatives of passenger associations. The agency will also ask for public input. The FAA often uses such aviation rulemaking committees when it is considering regulatory changes and their discussions often last months and sometimes even years.

It should be noted that the FAA doesn't actually ban the devices. However its rules state that airlines can only allow devices that have been tested and proven not to interfere with a given make and model aircraft's electronics. With thousands of devices on the market and new ones coming out each day, airlines simply ban them all during takeoff and landing. And it looks as if that's the way it will continue for some time to come.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Stephen Robertson, KB3HGM, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

--

As to ever getting permission for hams to use radio gear like handie talkies on a commercial airline flight? There is no consideration being given to ever permit any hobby radio electronics to be used. The FAA says that allowing cellphone use during flights isn't under consideration either. (FAA, RW, other published reports)

**

RADIO LAW: FENDER AND THE FCC ENTER CONSENT DECREE

Fender Musical Instruments Corporation and the FCC's Enforcement Bureau have come to an agreement regarding how the company marketed digital RF devices and how it will do so in the future.

The case which began in June of 2010, involves how the company marketed bass amplifiers, preamplifiers, tuners, wireless microphones and audio mixers. Imported digital RF devices are subject to the agency's

equipment verification or declaration of conformity procedures.

As part of the agreement, Fender Musical Instruments Corporation will designate a compliance officer within 30 days and set up a plan within 60 days to ensure the company complies with the FCC's equipment marketing rules. The company has also agreed to develop and implement an online compliance training program for all if its overseas Original Equipment Manufacturers that build some of its equipment. The company is to report to the commission within 15 days any discoveries of noncompliance and submit regular equipment compliance reports to the agency.

Based on a consent decree, Fender will make a voluntary payment of $265,000 to the U.S. Treasury and admits no guilt. In turn, the commission will end its investigation. The first installment of its U.S. Treasury payment of $132,500 is due within 30 days of the signing of the Consent Decree. (FCC, RW)

**

ENFORCEMENT: BROADCASTER FINED $20000 FOR UNLIT TOWER

Not lighting a broadcast tower for more than a decade will likely cost Renacer Broadcasters Corporation a hefty $20,000 fine from the FCC.

Renacer owns the antenna structure located in Maricao, Puerto Rico. Responding to a complaint, an FCC Enforcement Bureau agent inspected the tower and found the structure had never been painted and had no lights installed. Because the tower had been that way for more than 10 years, the commission found the violation to be egregious and doubled the proposed penalty to $20,000.

Renacer was given the customary 30 days to submit a sworn statement certifying that the tower is now in full compliance with FCC rules and also to pay the penalty or file an appeal. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC SAYS RADIO STATION MUST REVEAL ALL CONTEST RULES

The FCC has affirmed a $4000 Notice of Apparent Liability against Good Karma Broadcasting. This, for airing contest information without fully disclosing the terms.

The case concerns WKRN AM in Cleveland. The FCC received a complaint alleging that from November 2007 to September 2009, the station conducted what the complainant called a "bogus" contest called "Who Said That?" In it, those calling into the station were required to accurately identify who actually voiced a clip that was played on-air.

In 2009, the FCC wrote to WKRN asking about the contest. The agency said that in its reply WKRN admitted the bit aired regularly from early 2007 until the summer of 2008, and then sporadically thereafter. Once someone guessed the voice a new clip would air.

The station admitted that for more than 20 months, no one guessed the voice behind the clip. Also that the station was not announcing all the prizes, but rather focusing on the new prize. Also that it eventually stopped announcing them unless a listener called in and tried to guess the voice behind the last clip.

Good Karma also said that by September 2009, some of the original prizes were no longer available. It claimed that if a listener correctly identified the voice in a clip, the station would have offered a similar prize package to the one that was originally announced. As such, Good Karma disputed that it violated the contest rules, arguing that "Who Said That?" was better characterized as a feature or bit rather than a real contest. It argued that as such the material was not subject to the FCC's contest rules.

But the FCC would not buy that explanation. In affirming the fine it stated that licensees must accurately disclose all of the material terms of a contest. Also that licensees must conduct the contest substantially as announced or advertised.

Good Karma Broadcasting was given the customary 30 days to pay the fine or to file a further appeal. (FCC, RW)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: YOUTH IN AMATEUR RADIO PODCAST #3 RELEASED

If you are a young ham or know of one, you might want to spread the word that Episode 3 of the Youth in Amateur Radio Podcast is now on line and ready for download. In this installment the young hosts discuss what you should do after earning your amateur radio license including getting your first radio and joining a radio club. Heres a sample:

--

Net Audio: ".to find a ham who will be able to assist you in finding your first radio go to a local radio club and become a member. Radio clubs will help you find your first radio and they usually have monthly meetings which discuss local issues in amateur radio and also organize fun activities like Fox Hunts."
--

The Youth in Amateur Radio Podcast is produced by and for the youngsters in amateur radio. Its primary hosts are Anthony Spinelli, K2RCN, Sterling Coffey, N0SSC and Jacob Keogh, KD0NVX. Other voices include Joe Andrews, KD0LOS, and Matthew Chambers, NR0Q. Jerry Taylor KD0BIK serves as the shows Executive Producer. To hear the complete program and the two that preceded it simply take your web browser to yarphams.com. You can also find it on itunes under Youth in Amateur Radio podcast. (Youth in amateur Radio)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NORM ACES THE AZ TEST

Some names in the news. We lead off with Amateur Radio Newslines own Norm Seeley, KI7UP who tells us that recently scored 100% on the State of Arizona Traffic School test. While he does not know if he broke any records, Norm says that he finished the exam in less than 4 minutes and 30 seconds. At that point he got up and left his computer, after seeing that he had answered all questions correctly. We say, congratulations.

(ARNewsline(tm))

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W7EQI BEING EYED TO HEAD THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Regardless of the upcoming outcome of the November presidential election, don't be too surprised if Oregon Representative Greg Walden, W7EQI, is named to the chairmanship of the Republican National Congressional Committee. News reports say that House Speaker John Boehner recently gave a broad hint when he praised Walden by saying that he would soon have a "bigger job."

While the post doesn't get much attention from the general public, it's of major importance on Capitol Hill and is often viewed as a step up on the House leadership ladder. This is because thee chairman plays a key role in distributing millions of dollars in campaign help, in recruiting candidates and in making the tough calls on which districts to bet heavily on. (Published news reports)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: CELEBRATING MFJ 40th ANNIVERSARY OCT 5 AND 6

Turning to the ham radio social scene, all eyes will be on the city of Starkville, Mississippi, the weekend of October 5th and 6th. That's when hams from around the country and around the world are invited to join in on the 40th anniversary of the founding of MFJ Enterprises by the company's founder Martin Jue, K5FLU:

--

K5FLU: "Its going to be a fun event. We're opening all the factories up for tours. We will have people working there with the machines up so that you can see everything.

"We are going to have a free lunch. You can come over and we will feed you some good fried chieken.

"We are going to have free tailgating. You bring your stuff (to sell).

"We will have a VE session for taking license tests. And we will have a special event station with our club K5MFJ.

"And we are going to have door prizes from each of our companies. From MFJ, Ameritron, Hy-Gain, Cushcraft, Mirage and Vectronics.

"And everybody is invited and we hope that everyone comes."

--

Again the dates for the MFJ Enterprizes 40th anniversary party are October 5th and 6th at the company's headquarters in Starkville, Mississippi. For more information take your web browser to www.mfjenterprises.com. And oh yes, Ill see you there. (MFJ)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: PACIFICON IN SANTA CLARA CA. OCT 12-14

Two weeks later on October 12th, 13th and 14th the joint Pacificon and ARRL 2012 National Convention will take place at the Mariott Hotel in Santa Clara, California. Hosted by the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club, Pacificon is considered the premiere West coast ham radio gathering and this year with the addition of the ARRL Expo, planners are going all out to make it the best ever. And by going all out we mean some 80 forums, a huge exhibit hall featuring all of the well known ham radio manufacturers, distributors and retailers; a huge flea market and several special gatherings.

Among those who will be appearing at these years Pacificon is Amateur Radio's best known educator and the co-host of the T-V webcast Ham Nation, Gordon West, WB6NOA. Gordo will be the keynote speaker presenting the Saturday Opening Address and word is that this is already a complete sellout.

Also attending is NASA Astronaut Lee Morin, KF5DDB. He has been announced as the evening banquet featured speaker. Morin served as a Mission Specialist on the space shuttle Atlantis for STS-110 mission that launched in April of 2002.

And flying in all the way from Lincoln, Nebraska is ham radios favorite kit building enthusiast, Joe Eisenberg, K0NEB. Eisenberg will be giving his acclaimed talk and demonstration titled Kit Building 101 and 102 at Pacificon.

Add to that the ARRL Expo, an all day Friday antenna seminar, special event station W1AW/6 and so much more that there's no time to mention it all and you have the makings of a great West coast ham radio gathering. And you can find out more by simply going to www.pacificon.org on the World Wide Web. (Pacificon)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: WB2MGP WORLDRADIO COLUMN ON FRACTAL ANTENNA MEETING

An upcoming article in a popular ham radio on-line publication will peak your interest if you are interested in the future of the hobby and what some of those in it now are doing to insure its future. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

If you are a reader of Worldradio On-Line, then keep an eye open for an interesting column by Carole Perry, WB2MGP. Back in June, WB2MGP and one of her Radio Club of America Young Achievers, Austin Schaller, KD0FAA, accepted an invitation from Dr. Chip Cohen W1YW to visit his facility in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Dr. Cohen is the inventor of fractal antenna technology and in 1988 built the world's first fractal element antenna. He is also the founder and Chief Technology Officer of Fractal Antenna Systems and was interested in meeting with the 17 year old ham. This after KD0FAA gave a presentation on fractal technology at a Radio Club of America Technical Symposium in Dallas, Texas, last November.

According to Perry, W1YW attributes his ham radio background as being responsible for his career choices and interests. She tells Amateur Radio Newsline that KD0FAA was inspired by the experience. Even more so when Dr. Cohen invited the teenage ham to co-author an article with him.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, in Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

WB2MGP says that this is what she calls the ham radio ripple effect at its very best. You can read the entire story in the next issue Worldradio Online when it hits you e-mail in box. (WB2MGP)

**

NEWS FROM SPACE: EXPLOSION ON JUPITER NOTED BY AMATEUR STAR GAZERS

Amateur astronomers last week reported a bright fireball on the planet Jupiter that appears to be the result of a small asteroid hitting the planet during the early hours of September 10th. As the fireball faded, attention has turned to trying to discover any possible debris around the impact site. Observers will be monitoring the region in the nights ahead to see what if anything surfaces. Updates will be posted on-line at spaceweather.com (Spaceweather)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ISS TO GERMANY STUDENT Q AND A SESSION

A fascinating Amateur Radio on the International Space Station or ARISS contact was held on Friday, September 7th. This, between astronaut Sunita Williams, KD5PLB and students at the Michelstadt Gymnasium in Michelstadt, Germany. The clarity of the space to Earth link via ham radio was amazing. It enabled Williams to answer 14 questions posed by the students during the ten minute pass. Here's a sample:

--

Jessica: "What was the most scientific project you have been involved in on the ISS?"

KD5PLB: ".I think the most interesting thing is the investigations that we are doing on ourselves to see what happens to the human body after being in space for a long time. We are doing bone density; muscle measurements; workouts; different nutrition projects and all of that is going to help us understand what happens to the human body after a long time so that we can prepare the next generation which is your generation to go further. Back to the Moon and on to Mars."

--

With this being a political season here in the United States, one student was curious if astronauts can vote from space:

--

Arissa: "How do American astronauts vote for the president?"

KD5PLB: "Great question. Actually we vote by state in the U.S. and I am a Florida resident so I actually voted before I left. But you can vote from space. People have done that who are from the state of Texas."

--

Over 1600 students, teachers, and others were in attendance, as well as representatives from German radio, television and newspapers. The entire contact was video recorded and is posted on-line at tinyurl.com/iss-german-contact (ARISS)

**

RADIOSPORTS: ICOM D-STAR QSO PARTY SEPT 21 - 23

This years Icom sponsored D-STAR QSO Party runs from 00:00 UTC on Friday, September 21st to 24:00 hours on Sunday the 23rd. The goal of the D-STAR QSO Party is to communicate through as many D-STAR repeaters as possible throughout the world. All operators who submit an approved log will be eligible for the prize draw with winners randomly selected for each prize. For more information on this year's event take your web browser to tinyurl.com/DSTAR-contest-2012. (ICOM)

**

DX

In DX, word that DL3JH, is active stroke 6Y5 from Jamaica through September 22nd. His operation should be on all of the High Frequency bands using CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign only.

PT2OP will be operational as 3D2OP from Fiji between October 7th and the 14th. His activity will be holiday style on the High Frequency bands. QSL via his home callsign, either direct or via the bureau.

And speaking about Fiji, PY7ZY will be on from there as 3D2ZY from there between October 11th and the 15th. This just prior to his participation in the Tarawa Island, Western Kiribati, DXpedition. His operation will also be on the High Frequency bands with QSL's also going via his home callsign.

F6ICX will be active as 5R8IC from Saint Marie Island, Madagascar between November 10th and December 9th. His operation will be holiday style operating CW, RTTY, and PSK63 on 20 through 10 meters. QSL via his home callsign as listed on QRZ.com.

SQ1DWR, will be active signing stroke CE3 from Chile between October 10th and the 22nd. Operations will be on 40 through 10 meters using CW only. QSL as directed by the operator.

YJ8RN is currently visiting Loh Island in the Torres Island Group and is active as YJ8RN stroke P. The length of stay unknown and his operation has been mainly on 20 meter SSB. QSL direct only to Rod Newell, Box 905, Port Vila, Vanuatu.

Lastly, Members of the "Invoker Team" will be active as EG5INT from Columbretes Island between September 20th to the 24th. No frequencies or operating schedule has yet been announced. If you work them please QSL only via EA5KA.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: KEEP YOUR KIDS AWAY FROM BUTTON BATTERIES

And finally this week a warning from the Center for Disease Control saying that children and small button batteries are a dangerous and increasingly common problem for one another. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, tells us why:

--

According to a new Center for Disease Control report, in 1998 battery related injuries sent 1,900 children to the emergency room. In 2010 that number had risen to 4,800 cases being reported.

Overall, more than 40,000 children were admitted to Emergency Rooms nationwide between 1997 and 2010. Almost three quarters of them were 4 years old or younger. One in 10 children required hospitalization. 14 of them died.

Now the CDC has singled out button batteries as the most potentially harmful type for young children to be near. These are the small, thin round batteries often used to power watches, hearing aids, and other small devices. They are easy to swallow and can get stuck in a child's esophagus leading to serious injury or death. In fact, the C-D-C report says that twelve of the fourteen child mortalities were attributed to button batteries and that the remaining two also likely involved them.

The data, primarily from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System was collected and analyzed by the federal Consumer Product Safety Commission. The report states that the C-P-S-C is urging the electronics industry and battery manufacturers to develop warnings and industry standards to prevent serious injuries and deaths from button batteries.

The symptoms of battery ingestion include vomiting, abdominal pain, fever, and diarrhea, as well as difficulty breathing and swallowing. As these symptoms can be attributed to numerous causes, it is difficult to diagnose battery ingestion quickly. The report's authors point out that this is especially true when a child swallows a battery when no one is around to see them do it.

Battery safety standards for children's toys are dictated by law. All batteries must be inaccessible in toys designed for children under age three, while toys for kids under age twelve must make batteries under a certain size inaccessible. Even so, at least three of the deaths noted in the report were caused by batteries from devices not meant for children. These including a remote car alarm, a garage door opener, and a radio remote control.

A new law is being considered by Congress that may require child-proofing for button battery enclosures on all consumer products. Meantime its important that parents and caregivers should be aware of the potential hazards associated with battery exposure and ensure that products containing them are either kept away from children or that the batteries are secured safely in the product.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

The Consumer Product Safety Commission says that if a child swallows a battery that you immediately contact your local poison control center, your family doctor, or the 24-hour National Battery Ingestion Hotline at 202-625-3333. You can learn more about this hazard and how to proceed in the event a child does swallow a battery at tinyurl.com/kids-button-batteries. (CDC)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in Southern Mississippi saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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198. October 2012 QST - Digital Edition / SPECIAL DXING ISSUE

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-14 13:07:42 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120914123714.6C2B527DB0E@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 367
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

*October 2012 QST - Digital Edition - *Go Now>
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201210/>
Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201210/>

Digital QST

September 2012 QST - Digital Edition
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201210/>Dear ARRL Member,

The digital edition of October /QST/ is available now! Go to this link
and start reading: October 2012 /QST/
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201210/>.

*Special DXing Issue... *

* Build a shared apex loop array antenna to boost your receive
performance.
* Read about the fascinating HK0NA DXpedition to Malpelo Island.
* Get tips on how to make the most of modern DX spotting networks.
* Learn the real story of the historic 1954 DXpedition to Navassa Island.
* Find out why so many amateurs are eager to make contact with the
Sovereign Military Order of Malta.
* ...and much more!

Enjoy Content You Won't Find in the Print Edition...

* Watch video overviews of the Alinco DJ-V57T and Kenwood TH-K20A
handheld transceivers.
* Listen to galactic noise on 10 meters.
* See extra photos of the HK0NA Malpelo Island DXpedition.
* Listen to the Hendricks QRP Kits Scout Regen receiver.

And, don't forget that all ARRL members have access to every issue of
/QST/. After you've enjoyed reading this month's issue, you can browse
the entire /QST/ archive (every issue since 1915) by visiting
www.arrl.org/qst <http://www.arrl.org/qst>. Look for the links to the
digital and print archives.

73,

Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Editor

What is a digital edition?
The digital edition of /QST/ is a web-based edition of the journal...a

way to read and interact with the current issue of /QST/ anytime, anywhere. It simulates the look and feel of our printed version, complete with page flipping, indexing and easy ways to move around to get to the content you want. You can choose to read it online, or download the entire issue to your laptop. Each issue includes unique, digital-edition-only content such as video, audio features and extra content. Members can also access the digital archive for access to previous issues.

How do I access the digital edition?
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To login or register, go to www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

Forgot password? Go to www.arrl.org/forgot-password <http://www.arrl.org/forgot-password> to reset your password.

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Digital QST

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199. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-15 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1347688801@panix.com>
Source record: 368
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
```

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

200. The ARRL Letter for September 20, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-20 22:28:40 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120920204300.6409326177@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 369
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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September 20, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- This Week in Radiosport
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+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION: FIND OUT WHAT'S IN STORE AT THE 2012
ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION

On October 12-14, the ARRL will welcome members and friends to the
2012 ARRL National Convention in Santa Clara, California. Hosted by
Pacificon and sponsored by members of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio
Club, this three-day event is sure to be jam-packed with excitement,
exhibits and, of course, the ever-popular ARRL EXPO. Use this handy
guide to find ARRL-sponsored activities and exhibits throughout the
event. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/find-out-what-s-in-store-at-the-2012-arrl-national-
convention>.

==> + LOOKING AHEAD TO WRC-15

From an Amateur Radio perspective, the 2012 World Radiocommunication
Conference (WRC-12) was very successful. According to IARU Secretary
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Rod Stafford, W6ROD, the IARU Administrative Council will meet in the next 45 days and will address the agenda items for the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) with an eye to building the best strategy for dealing with those items in a way that is most favorable to the Amateur Radio Service. While the IARU will be watching all agenda items in 2015, there is one agenda item that focuses on the Amateur Radio Service, and another four that may have an effect the Amateur Radio Service. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/looking-ahead-to-wrc-15>.

==> + SILENT KEY: SEAN SMITH, KG4WSS, KILLED IN CONSULATE ATTACK

Sean P. Smith, KG4WSS, of Falls Church, Virginia, was killed when the US Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, was attacked on September 11. He was 34. Smith was one of four Americans, including Chris Stevens -- the US Ambassador to Libya -- who was killed in the attack. Smith, a native of San Diego, enlisted in the Air Force in 1995 at age 17. He served six years as a ground radio maintenance specialist, including a deployment to Oman, before leaving the service in 2002 as a staff sergeant. He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal. Smith, who had worked at the State Department for 10 years, was in Libya on a temporary assignment when he was killed. Prior to his temporary assignment to Benghazi, Smith served for the State Department in Brussels, Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal and The Hague. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/sean-smith-kg4wss-killed-in-consulate-attack>.

==> + ARDF UPDATE: A BAKER'S DOZEN OF MEDALS FOR ARDF TEAM USA

By ARRL Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator Joe Moell, K0OV

As they packed their suitcases in preparation for the World Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF), the members of Team USA were eager, but they had no idea that they would return home with 13 medals. Team USA has participated in these biennial championships since 1998, and the most medals they had won any time so far had been two, with no golds. This year, however, would be different; their practice sessions and training camps would make them better prepared than ever.

The sport of ARDF -- also called foxtailing, foxhunting and radio-orienteering -- has undergone many changes since the first World Championships in 1980, but the basics remain unchanged. A championship course has five transmitters in a mapped area of rural and wooded terrain, typically 1000 acres or more. When Fox #1 comes on the air, contestants set out from the start as and try to be the fastest to "punch in" at all required transmitters and then make it to the finish line in another part of the forest. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/ardf-update-a-baker-s-dozen-of-medals-for-ardf-team-usa>.

==> FEDERAL EMPLOYEES CAN HELP SUPPORT ARRL THROUGH THE 2012 COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

For the past 11 years, the US Office of Personnel Management has designated the ARRL as a participant in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This campaign for federal government civilian employees, US Postal Service workers and members of the military has generated almost $192,000 for ARRL programs since it first became an option for federal employees to donate to the League. The CFC provides an easy way to support the ARRL's effort to represent its members and all radio amateurs. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/federal-employees-can-help-support-arrl-through-the-2012-combined-federal-campaign>.

==> + ON THE AIR: LAST MAN STANDING PLANS SPECIAL EVENT STATION

The crew of the hit ABC comedy Last Man Standing <http://www.arrl.org/news/em-ham-radio-in-hollywood-em-amateur-radio-makes-its-debut-on-em-last-man-standing-em> is planning a radio event on Sunday, October 28 to kick off the show's second season. Last Man Standing features Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT. According to Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, Mike's station is back this year with even more gear. In addition, all the antennas that were in the catwalk last year have been relocated to the studio's roof.

Using special event call sign K6T, the show's crew will operate on HF, VHF, UHF, D-STAR, EchoLink and IRLP to communicate with fans of the show; 12 members of the Last Man Standing crew are licensed amateurs. Members of the Los Angeles-based PAPA System <http://www.papasys.com/> will assist the crew with running the event. The crew will use several PAPA System repeaters to run analog VHF, UHF and D-STAR communications. They will also be monitoring the Disney Amateur Radio Interconnect repeater system, which has repeaters in New York City (W2ABC <http://w2abc.org/index2.php>), Florida (WD4WDW <http://www.wd4wdw.org/> and WD4WDW-B/D-STAR <https://dstargw.wd4wdw.org/>) and California (KB6AJE <http://www.qrz.com/db/wb6aje>), as well as EchoLink capability. A list of frequencies and an operating schedule will be posted on the KA0XTT Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/KA0XTT?ref=ts> and on Amodeo's Twitter feed <https://twitter.com/nn6ja> in the next few weeks. A special QSL card will be sent to all hams who contact K6T; hams do not need to send a self-addressed, stamped envelope, nor do they need to send postage or "green stamps."

Last Man Standing <http://beta.abc.go.com/shows/last-man-standing> begins its second season on Friday, November 2 at 8/7 Central.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "The summer Sun knows me by name <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NaCCG7QkM_c>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers dropped this week, from 83.1 to 56, while the average daily solar flux declined from 118.9 to 101.4. The latest forecast shows the predicted solar flux at 115 on September 20-22, 120 on September 23-25, then 125 and 130 on September 26-27, and rising to

140 on September 28-October 1. On October 2, it drops to 135, 130 on October 3-5, and back down to 125 on October 6-7. The flux values then dip below 100 on October 14-16, and peak again around 140 on October 25-28. The predicted planetary A index is 10 on September 20, 12 on September 21-22, 10 on September 23 and 5 on September 24-28, 10 again on September 29, and 5 on September 30-October 2. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, September 21. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by The Brady Bunch's It's a Sunshine Day <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/It%27s_a_Sunshine_Day>.

==> + DXCC NEWS: ARRL DXCC DESK APPROVES 11 OPERATIONS FOR DXCC CREDIT

On September 19, the ARRL DXCC Desk approved the following 2012 operations for DXCC credit: 3B8/IW5ELA (Mauritius); E40VB (Palestine); JY8VB (Jordan); 9A8VB (Croatia); E7/UA4WHX (Bosnia-Herzegovina); 4O7VB (Montenegro); Z38VB (Macedonia); ZA/UA4WHX (Albania); YU9VB (Serbia); EY8/UA4WHX (Tajikistan), and UN/UA4WHX (Kazakhstan).

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- September 21 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- September 22 -- FOC QSO Party; AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
- September 23 -- BARTG Sprint 75
- September 24 -- QRP Homebrewer Sprint
- September 25 -- 222 MHz Fall Sprint (local time)
- September 26 -- SKCC Sprint
- September 26-27 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- September 29 -- Microwave Fall Sprint (local time)
- September 29-30 -- Texas QSO Party; CQ WW RTTY Contest
- October 2 -- ARS Spartan Sprint
- October 3 -- German Telegraphy Contest
- October 3 -- 432 MHz Fall Sprint (local time)

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- September 22 -- ARRL Washington State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/washington-state-convention-36th-annual-spokane-hamfest>,

Spokane Valley, Washington
- September 22-23 -- ARRL Illinois State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/illinois-state-convention-peoria-superfest-2012
>,
Peoria, Illinois
- September 28-29 -- SEDCO/W4DXCC VIII Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/sedco-w4dxcc-viii-convention>, Pigeon
Forge, Tennessee
- October 7 -- ARRL Connecticut State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/connecticut-state-convention-nutmeg-hamfest>,
Meriden, Connecticut
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>,
Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>,
Melbourne, Florida
- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest
-computer-expo-1>,
Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes
t-computer-show'>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-
1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi

- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

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s>
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communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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201. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1832 - September 21 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-21 09:00:11 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120921090003.5F6FB33C29@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 370
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1832 - September 21 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1832 with a release date of September 21 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T.

Political wrangling over making spectrum available to expand broadband could impact on ham radio in years to come; the South African Radio League backs the Radio Society of Great Britain in is stand on in-home B-P-L; a bunch of new cubesats reach orbit; a dozen operations approved for DXCC and the upcoming Last Man Standing on-air celebration gets the special event callsign K6T. Find out how to make contact with the sound stage on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1832 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO POLITICS: HOUSE MAJORITY REPORTEDLY WANTS SPECTRUM CLEARING RATHER THAN SHARING

According to news reports, the majority control in the United States House of Representatives favors clearing federal spectrum for commercial use instead of seeking sharing arrangements. This, according to the majority staff memo circulated for a House of Representatives hearing prior to a meeting held recently in Washington D.C.. And there is a chance that any decisions could impact on future access to the highest Ultra High Frequency and Super High Frequency bands used by ham radio. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, takes a look at what's transpiring in the national capital:

--

On September 13th, House members of the Communications and Technology subcommittee were to discuss the subject of Creating Opportunities through Improved Government Spectrum Efficiency. But in rejecting a report from the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, the memo said that sharing spectrum in the way it envisions is less useful than clearing spectrum and too untested to be the focus of the subcommittee's spectrum strategy.

The memo went on to say that such sharing should be reserved for cases in which federal clearing is impossible. However the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and the National

Telecommunications and Information Administration both endorse public-private spectrum sharing. They also claim that clearing the spectrum would cost more than $18 billion and 10 years to clear the targeted airwaves.

But the staff memo claims that this figure was inflated and unconfirmed by independent analysis. Instead it calls the figure merely aggregated the estimates of the federal agencies currently using the spectrum. The memo claims that the NTIA and the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology never fully investigated the agencies' relocation estimates. Nor has it determined whether the agencies need all the spectrum they have, or whether they could get by with less if they had more efficient equipment or relied more on commercial services.

At this moment its not known exactly what spectrum would be impacted if a non-sharing plan is eventually passed. That said, it could impact negatively on amateur radio if the reallocated spectrum was that shared between Part 97 users and government agencies as quite a bit of the U-H-F and higher bands are today. And while am eventual compromise between the two factions is most likely, this is yet another matter that the nations ham radio community will have to watch closely in the days, weeks and months ahead.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

For its part, the President's Council's proposed a sharing arrangement is similar to unlicensed devices in the broadcast bands, which use a dynamic database to check for open frequencies. However the majority House staff appears to have rejected that approach. (Adapted from TV Technology)

**

RADIO POLITICS: SARL SAYS IT SUPPORTS RSGB STAND ON BPL/PLT

Over on the other side of the world, the South African Radio League says that it supports the Radio Society of Great Britain's concerns over Access Broadband over Powerline also known as Powerline Technology. These are the internet access ports carried on unshielded in-home and powerline to home wiring.

As reported last week, the RSGB had written an official letter to the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Electromagnetic Compatibility Working Group. In it the U-K national ham radio society asked that the Working Group reconsider its policy on the draft European Broadband over Power Line standard. One that the RSGB claims to threaten a 38dB increase in RF pollution over much of the short wave radio spectrum.

Now, in its own public statement, the South African Radio League days that it fully supports the RSGB's views. It says that any relaxation in emission levels can have far reaching negative effects which ultimately may impact on South Africa as well. (SARL)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NEW CUBESATS NOW ON-ORBIT

What might best be called a flotilla of new cubesats operating in the ham radio bands are now on-orbit. Amateur Radio Newsline's George Bowen, W2XBS, has the details:

--

The long awaited launch of a number of new ham radio cubesats has finally taken place. The group of tiny birds winged their way to Earth orbit on September 13th on board a The Atlas 5 launch vehicle from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

The launch carried a satellite for the National Reconnaissance Office. Also aboard this flight at four cubesats as part of NASA's Educational Launch of Nanosatellites mission and seven cubesats for government use. The non government mini-birds include the Cubesat for Ion, Neutral, Electron, Magnetic fields that downlinks its science telemetry is in 2200 to 2300 MHz range.

Also now on-orbit is the Colorado Student Space Weather Experiment that can be heard on 437.345 MHz transmitting 9k6 modulation in AX.25 protocol. Another is CP5 also known as PolySat with its downlink at 437.405 MHz at 1 watt, AFSK on Lower Sideband in AX.25 protocol. Rounding out the set is XBN which is a Cosmic X-Ray Background Nanosatellite with its downlink 437.525 MHz running G-F-S-K also in AX.25 protocol.

Several hours after launch Justin Foley, KI6EPH, announced via the Cubesat Internet Rely Channel that all of the microsats had been successfully deployed. A detailed article of the launch can be found on-line at tinyurl.com/microsats-to-orbit.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm George Bowen, W2XBS, monitoring the sky at the North East Bureau in Albany New York.

--

A detailed article on the payloads of this mission and the reason for the launch delays can be found on-line at tinyurl.com/multi-microsat-launch. (ANS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FIVE CUBSATS TO GO ON-ORBIT FROM ISS

The long awaited deployment of five CubeSats from the International Space Station will take place on Thursday, September 27. Four of the micro sized birds carry amateur radio payloads. These are identified

as F-1, FITSAT-1, WE-WISH and TechEdSat. More about this microsat project is on- line at tinyurl.com/iss-micro-birds. (AMSAT-UK)

**

AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: THREE HAMS RETURN TO EARTH

Three astronauts hams have returned safely to Earth after completing a four month mission aboard the International Space Station. The Expedition 32 crew made up of American Flight Engineer Joe Acaba, KE5DAR with Russian Commander Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, and Flight Engineer Sergei Revin, RN3BS, undocked their Soyuz TMA-04M spacecraft from the orbiting space lab at 7:09 p.m. EDT. They landed in northern Kazakhstan at 10:53 p.m. EDT Sunday night.

The homeward bound Soyuz fired its orbital engines one last time at 9:56 p.m. The descent module then separated from the spacecraft and fell through the atmosphere. It then deployed its parachutes and fired landing engines shortly before touchdown to soften the impact.

The successful landing wraps up a mission that began on May 17 with the Expedition 32 crew spending 125 days in space. (ARRL, Southgate, others)

**

DXCC NEWS: ARRL APPROVES A DOZEN OPERATIONS FOR DXCC

A busy day at the ARRL's DXCC Desk with word that an even dozen operations have been approved for DXCC credit. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with the list:

--

According to Bill Moore, NC1L at the ARRL Awards Desk, the following 2012 operations have been approved for DXCC credit. In no particular order they are the 3B8 stroke IW5ELA operation from Mauritius Island; E40VB from Palestine; JY8VB from Jordan; 9A8VB from Croatia; E7 stroke UA4WHX from Bosnia-Herzegovina; 4O7VB from Montenegro; Z38VB from Macedonia; ZA stroke UA4WHX from Albania; YU9VB from Serbia, EY8 stroke UA4WHX from Tajikistan and the UN stroke UA4WHX operation from Kazakhstan.

And that's quite a list.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

If you missed any of that you can find the entire list in this week's printed Amateur Radio Newsline report. (ARRL DXCC Desk)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WB0QXW repeater serving St. Louis Missouri.

(5 sec pause here)

**

BREAKING DX NEWS: N8HS SWAINS ISLAND OPERATION GOES QRT EARLY

The NH8S team on Swains Island is now QRT and is reported to be in the process of tearing down their camp. This, for a possible early departure.

Sanford Houston, K5YY, who is the DXpedition's Pilot Station. He says that the decision to go silent before the announced September 18th end of operations date was due to several factors. This included bad weather conditions, antennas that had come down, a number of operators that had fallen ill with some wounds requiring medical care.

During its stay on Swains the NH8S team has made a total of 105,455 QSOs with 26,010 Unique callsigns. Of these 43,126 were on SSB, 54,128 on CW and 8,201 made using RTTY.

Direct QSLs can be mailed to the Swains Island DXpedition, P.O. Box 5005, Lake Wylie, South Carolina. 29710, in the USA. Bureau QSLs go to AA4NN.

More information on this operation is on-line at http://nh8s.org And we will have more DX related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (OPDX)

**

RADIO CRIME: HAM RADIO EMCOMM REPEATER VANDALIZED

Steven Tidwell, KF5NDG, reports to Amateur Radio Newsline on a recent case where a repeater used for Skywarn and other ham radio emergency communications was criminally damaged. The only good news us that it appears the perpetrators have been caught. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK has the details:

--

It all happened a few weeks ago at about 4:15 a.m. local time on August 20th. That's when the 147.12 MHz hub of the W5RHS linked repeater system in Benton, Arkansas, was taken off the air by an act of vandalism.

The repeater site is located on a water tower that sits behind a fence and locked gate. The suspects managed to break in to the site, and cut the hard-line going to the repeater and the link antennas. They also cut the coax going to the Water Association radio system. The latter is the commercial radio system communicates between the plant and the

water tower.

According to KF5NDG the system owner is Kelly Hesters, whose call is W5RHS. He reportedly noticed that his repeater was off the air when he was leaving work about 7 AM. He made a stop at the repeater site and noticed a Toyota pickup truck outside the gate. He then went inside he found the damage.

The next day when he went back to see what parts and supplies he needed to get the repeater back on the air he found a key that the suspects dropped on the ground. He contacted the Saline County Sheriffs office which determined that the key belonged to the vehicle. As a result of some detective work by the local authorities the suspects in the break-in have been arrested.

Meantime W5RHS is waiting on the delivery of some new hard-line to get the repeater back on the air.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

By way of reference, the W5RHS repeater is the main hub for a multi-linked repeater system in Arkansas. This repeater system is also very involved in Skywarn operations as well as carrying NOAA weather radio alerts. (KF5NDG)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC AFFIRMS $15000 NAL TO UNLICENSED MIAMI BROADCASTER

The FCC has affirmed a $15000 monetary forfeiture previously issued to Jeffrey Darius. This for his alleged operation an unlicensed transmitter in the Miami, Florida area.

Back on March 6th the Enforcement Bureau's Miami Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Darius after tracing an unlicensed broadcast operation on 88.7 MHz to him. To date, Darius had not filed a response to the proposed fine. As a result the forfeiture has been affirmed.

As is the custom, Darius was given the usual 30 days from the September 14th release date of the order to pay or file an appeal. (FCC)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: ICOM AMERICA ANNOUNCES NEW SUBSIDIARY IN BRAZIL

Icom America has announced the establishment of Icom Brazil. This as a subsidiary with headquarters located in Belo Horizonte which is the capital city of Minas Gerais state.

The creation of the new subsidiary will allow the radio manufacturer to solidify its brand visibility in an emerging South American market.

According to the Central Intelligence Agency's "World Factbook" publication, Brazil became the world's seventh largest economy in terms of gross domestic product in 2011.

The initial objective of Icom Brazil will focus on the public safety industry with Brazil's government. The new subsidiary will also help existing distributors expand their dealer networks nationwide. (Icom, Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: BECKY SCHOENFELD, W1BXY, NAMED QST MANAGING EDITOR

The ARRL has announced that Book Editor Becky Schoenfeld, W1BXY, has been promoted to QST Managing Editor. A Connecticut native, Schoenfeld has more than two decades of publishing experience.

Prior to her employment at ARRL Headquarters, Schoenfeld served as Senior Editor at Teaching Kindergarten through 8th grade magazine and Senior Project Editor for textbook publisher Macmillan/McGraw-Hill. She is also the founder of Amaranth magazine which is a highly successful poetry journal.

W1BXY holds a Masters of Fine Arts from Emerson College and a Bachelor of Arts from Fairfield University. Her Amateur Radio activities include chasing grid squares in pursuit of her 6 meter VUCC award and DX hunting on 10 meters.

Schoenfeld replaces the position formerly held by Joel Kleinman, N1BKE, who died tragically in a house fire several weeks ago. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: AMSAT 2012 BOD ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Tom Clark, K3IO, Lou McFadin, W5DID, and Gould Smith, WA4SXM, will serve on the AMSAT North America Board of Directors for the next two years. The first alternate is Mark Hammond, N8MH and the second alternate is Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK. In all some 700 AMSAT North America members cast ballots in this year's election. (AMSAT)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HUNTSVILLE ARC TO ACTIVATE THREE LIGHTHOUSES

The Huntsville Alabama Amateur Radio Club says that it will be activating three light houses in Mobile Bay for Alabama Lighthouse Weekend. The event takes place beginning at 1800 Central Time on October 5th and runs through 1800 Central on the 7th. During that period the club will be on the air as N4L from the Sand Island lighthouse near the entrance to Mobile Bay, W4L which is the Mobile Point lighthouse at Fort Morgan , and K4L at the MidBay lighthouse in Mobile Bay. Operations will be on the High Frequency bands. For more information please contact the event organizer Warren Alford by e-mail

to KJ4RAQ (at) comcast (dot) net. (HARC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS UPDATE: W5KUB TO WEBCAST MFJ 40TH ANNIVERSARY

The 40th anniversary hamfest gathering of MFJ Enterprises will be streamed live to the Internet thanks to Tom Medlin, W5KUB. The event takes place October 5th and 6th from the grounds of the company's production complex in Starkville Mississippi. As reported last week, there will be all sorts of fun activities and now those hams unable to travel to the gathering will be able to enjoy it vicariously thanks to Tom and his highly skilled video production crew. As in past webcasts Tom will be offering prizes to some of those who tune in. Updated information will be posted to Tom's Facebook webpage at facebook.com/groups/w5kub/. The on-line address to enjoy all of what looks to be a fun gathering at MFJ is simply w5kub.com. (W5KUB)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: PACIFICON TO FEATURE NEW MEDIA AND SOCIAL NETWORKING

And an update on plans for the joint Pacificon and ARRL 2012 National Convention. A major theme this year is New Media and Social Networking. And to emphasize its importance the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club and Pacificon have teamed up to host "Night of the New Media Elmers" with well-known amateur radio podcasters.

At airtime, speakers scheduled to appear include Jerry Taylor, KD0BIK, Randy Hall, K7AGE, Chris Matthieu, N7ICE, and Ham Nation co-host Gordon West, WB6NOA.

Jim Siemons, AF6PU, is the event's co-General Chairman. He says that forums and seminars are the very heart and soul of Pacificon:

--

AF6PU: "Pacificon specifically is a forum driven event and we have fantastic speakers from all over the country. We've had Nobel Laureates and astronauts and all sorts of folks come out and talk about whatever you are into in amateur radio we are going to have something for you."

--

The New Media and Social Networking gathering takes place at 7 P.M. on Friday night, October 12th. The location is in the Sedona Ballroom of the Satern Conference Center at the Mariott Hotel and Convention Center in Santa Clara, California.

Pacificon has also created a Facebook page where you can post photos, videos, comments, and get up-to-date announcements about what's happening at the convention. To join it sign onto Facebook and then go to facebook.com/Pacificon2012 and click "Like" to join the page.

(MDARC, Pacificon)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: ULTRA HIGH DEFINITION TV SYSTEM EXPECTS ITU APPROVAL

The next generation of super high definition television may soon be on its way as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Damron, N8TMW:

--

Ultra High Definition Television also known under the acronym Super Hi-Vision, will likely be approved by the International Telecommunication Union as the next generation universal global television standard.

Developed by public broadcaster NHK at its Science and Technical Research Laboratories, Ultra High Definition Television is a system that delivers 16 times the resolution of current high definition images. The new format can deliver images with 33 million pixels through 7,680 horizontal lines and 4,320 vertical lines. It also boasts a video refresh rate of 120 frames per second, as well as 22.2 channel multi-dimensional sound.

The system is collaboration between NHK along with electronics manufacturers Panasonic and Sharp.

>From Charleston West Virginia, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, reporting.

--

Test broadcasts are scheduled to begin in Japan by 2020. (Published News Reports)

**

RADIOSPORTS: CALIFORNIA AND PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTIES COMING

Two of the nations most popular radiosporting events are looming on the near horizon. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, is here with the details:

--

The first weekend of October, it's the granddaddy of all state QSO parties - the California QSO Party. It's sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club.

The action starts on Saturday, Oct. 6 and wraps up Sunday, Oct. 7.

The following weekend, Saturday, Oct. 13 and Sunday, Oct. 14, it's the Pennsylvania QSO sponsored by the Nittany Amateur Radio Club in State College, PA.

It's promoted as the "Friendly QSO Party."

Let's start right up front here.

You don't have to be a contester to take part in either of these events.

In fact, most of the operators competing in either of the parties like to hear from the many casual operators who might turn on their radios during the weekend, hear some activity, and tune up and down the HF bands offering a simple contact and, perhaps, a much needed multiplier.

So, you're just as valuable, sometimes even more valuable, than you might think.

Don't be afraid. Squeeze the mic or touch the CW paddles or the key and give a fellow ham a hand.

California's party features activity from all 58 counties in the Golden State and has special competitions for Y-Ls, youth operators, first-time contesters and even school clubs.

Club competitions are highly encouraged, so if you decide to jump in, put the name of your radio club into the entry form.

The California Party gives away a host of plaques for various operating categories, offers unique T-shirts to those who are interested, and even awards special prizes for the top 20 California and top 20 non-California single operator stations. See their website for more on that.

The following weekend, the bands get active again as operators fan out across Pennsylvania's 67 counties for a great operating event.

It's one of the few competitions where lots of non-contesters get together with friends to set up Field Day- style stations to activate some of the rare Pennsylvania counties.

There's lots of buzz in the months before the party on a reflector operated by the party organizers.

And, there are plaques and certificates awarded to contestants both within Pennsylvania and across the country. Even DX stations are recognized.

First-timers also are welcome in the PA Party. And, there are T-shirts for those who to get one.

So, is your station ready?

If you're a contester, maybe you consider each of the parties a warm-up for the fall contest competition.

If you're not a contester, get on anyway. Pick up a few counties in Pennsylvania or California, maybe a few unique call signs if you're a prefix hunter.

The bottom line: Have some fun.

We'll see you on the air!

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

More on the California QSO Party is on line at tinyurl.com/cal-qso-party. The website for the Pennsylvania QSO Party is simply tinyurl.com/pa-qso-party. We say good luck in both contests.

(NT3V)

**

Radiosports: ARRL 2011 EME CERTIFICATES IN THE MAIL

Sean Kutzko, KX9X, who is the ARRL's Contest Branch Manager says that Certificates for the Leagues 2011 E-M-E Contest were mailed out on September 18th. Winners should see them begin to arrive shortly. Awards processing for ARRL contests can be tracked at arrl.org/plaques-and-certificates. (ARRL)

**

ON THE AIR: GB1LM CELEBRATES UL LIVERPOOL MARATHON

On the air, listen out for GB1LM which is the special event call sign for the United Kingdom's famed Liverpool Marathon. The station will be active on the High Frequency bands through October 14th. For QSL information please check GB1LM on QRZ.com. (Southgate)

**

DX

In DX, The Republic of South Sudan has issued its first amateur radio license. The call Z81A went to Jim Pratt who holds the United States call letters of K7QI. The second license issued was Z81D. It went to Diya Al Sadi, YI1DZ. Both are reportedly now on the air.

Also new, on September 17th, shortly after 1700 U-T-C, a combined group of international and local operators started operating as Z-6-zero-K

from near Pristina, Kosovo on both 20 and 17 meter SSB. Operators included 9A9A, MD0CCE, OH2BH and OH2TA. Local television recorded the historic moment live on air. QSL via G3TXF.

And word that the Martello Tower Group will be activating the Island of Herm which from October 4th to the 8th. Operations will be on 80 through 10 meter SSB and RTTY. QSL via G6NHU.

Lastly ON6KE will be active as 9H3AK from Gozo Island through September 28th. His activity will be holiday style on 40, 30 and 20 meters operating about 5 watts QRP on CW only. QSL only electronically via Logbook of the World or eQSL. No printed cards will be available for this operation.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: LAST MAN STANDING GETS SPECIAL EVENT CALL K6T

And finally this week, word from Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, that the callsign K6T has been approved for use for the shows special event operation to be held on Sunday, October 28th. NN6JA says that K6T will take to the air at approximately 9 a.m. Pacific with exact bands and frequencies to be announced as the date gets closer. And according to Amodeo, he wants this to be a fun event that everyone can share in:

--

NN6JA: "We at the show are so excited about ham radio and we have so much incredibly cool amateur radio here; not to mention some 12 licensed amateur radio operators on the staff; that we decided why not share our good fortune with hams out around America and our ham (radio) fans in particular and get on the air and talk directly to our ham (radio) fans through all of our great gear.

"So we took a few minutes, put all of our antennas on the roof so we could improve our range; tuned everything up; and we are ready to go.

"So we are hoping everybody from around the country will take a few minutes away from contesting, because that is a big contest afternoon, and come on over (to where we are operating) and call us up."

--

NN6JA says that the current plan is to operate on the High Frequency, VHF and UHF bands as well as D-STAR, Echolink and IRLP. This should make it possible for hams anywhere to make contact with K6T.

--

NN6JA: "We are going to provide a large number of paths for people to get in so we kind of feel that everyone in the country should be able to find some path to get to our stage (ham radio operation) to talk to

our crew and the PAPA members who are helping us out."

--

According to Amodeo, members of the LA based PAPA System will assist the licensed operators who are part of the shows the crew in running the event. They will use several PAPA System repeaters to run its local and linked communications. The operators will also be monitoring other linked repeater systems from around the country as well.

As the day approaches further information will be posted on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KA0XTT. Amodeo also says to monitor @nn6ja on Twitter for the fastest updates.

Last Man Standing stars actor and comedian Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT. The show airs on ABC.

(NN6JA, ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, Pacificon, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, near Houston, Texas, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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202. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-22 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1348293601@panix.com>
Source record: 371
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

203. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-22 06:05:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1348293901@panix.com>
Source record: 372
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

204. ARRL 2012 International Humanitarian Award

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-25 20:56:42 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120925202808.8F28A203AF@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 373
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

The nomination period for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award is now open. Here is more information:

ARRL INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations are open for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award <http://www.arrl.org/international-humanitarian-award>. The award is conferred upon an amateur or amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established the annual prize to recognize Amateur Radio operators who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster.

A committee appointed by the League's President recommends the award recipient(s) to the ARRL Board, which makes the final decision. The committee is now accepting nominations from Amateur Radio, governmental or other organizations that have benefited from extraordinary service rendered by an Amateur Radio operator or group.

Amateur Radio is one of the few telecommunication services that allow people throughout the world from all walks of life to meet and talk with each other, thereby spreading goodwill across political boundaries. The ARRL International Humanitarian Award recognizes Amateur Radio's unique role in international communication and the assistance amateurs regularly provide to people in need.

Nominations should include a summary of the nominee's actions that qualify the individual (or individuals) for this award, plus verifying statements from at least two people having first-hand knowledge of the events warranting the nomination. These statements may be from an official of a group (for example, the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, a local or state emergency management official) that benefited from the nominee's particular Amateur Radio contribution. Nominations should include the names and addresses of all references.

All nominations and supporting materials for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award must be submitted in writing in English to ARRL International Humanitarian Award, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 USA.

Nomination submissions are due by December 31, 2012. In the event that no nominations are received, the committee itself may determine a recipient or decide to make no award.

The winner of the ARRL International Humanitarian Award receives an engraved plaque and a profile in QST and other ARRL venues.

Andrey Fedorov, RW3AH/KL1A, was the recipient of the 2011 ARRL International Humanitarian Award. The former chief coordinator of the Russian Amateur Radio Emergency Service (RARES), Fedorov has been involved in providing communications support via Amateur Radio for almost 25 years.

73,

Chuck Skolaut KØBOG
Field & Regulatory Correspondent
ARRL The national association for Amateur Radio
k0bog@arrl.org

73, Art K0AIZ

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org

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205. The ARRL Letter for September 27, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-27 21:57:52 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20120927184433.C7C7327CCD2@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 374
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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****************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
****************************************

September 27, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
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+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + ON THE AIR: HAMS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES HELP PUT KOSOVO ON THE AIR
FOR THE FIRST TIME

On September 12, the Autoriteti Rregullativ i Telekomunikacionit
(ART) -- Kosovo's telecommunications regulatory authority -- created
the necessary legal framework for the development of an Amateur Radio
Service in the Republic of Kosovo by approving its Regulation for
Amateur Radio Services. Although not formally assigned a prefix by the
International Telecommunication Union, Kosovo will use the Z6 prefix.
Currently, Kosovo does not count toward the ARRL's DXCC Award, as it
has not been assigned a prefix by the ITU (per DXCC rule II.1.a), nor
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has it been recognized by the United Nations (per DXCC rule II.1.b).

Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF, and Bob Barden, MD0CCE/N2BB -- members of the Chiltern DX Club (CDXC) -- were part of a team of operators led by IARU Region 1 President Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, that activated Z60K, the first Amateur Radio station in the Republic of Kosovo. Along with Cawthorne, Barden and Blondeel Timmerman, the team included the following radio amateurs: Nik Percin, 9A5W; Emil Balen Zdravko, 9A9A; Emir Mahmutovic, 9A6AA; Martti Laine, OH2BH; Jorma Saloranta, OH2KI, and Pekka Holstila, OH2TA. Click here <http://www.arrl.org/news/a-first-hand-look-at-the-z60k-activation-in-kosovo> for Cawthorne's and Barden's account of the Z60K activation.

==> + FORMER AMSAT PRESIDENT BILL TYNAN, W3XO, TO RECEIVE RCA'S GOLDWATER AWARD

The Radio Club of America (RCA) has announced that William A. Tynan, W3XO, of Kerrville, Texas, will receive its 2012 Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio Award. First given in 1994, the Goldwater Award is given to an RCA member who is also a licensed amateur, in recognition of a long record of service to the public through the use of Amateur Radio. Tynan -- an RCA Fellow and an ARRL Life Member -- will receive the award at the RCA's 103rd annual awards banquet, held in New York City on November 16. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, also an RCA Fellow, will be the banquet's keynote speaker. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/former-amsat-president-bill-tynan-w3xo-to-receive-rca-s-goldwater-award>.

==> + SILENT KEY: IARU REGION 3 CHAIRMAN MICHAEL OWEN, VK3KI (SK)

IARU Region 3 Chairman Michael Owen, VK3KI, passed away September 22. He was 75. Owen, who was also President of the Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) -- that country's IARU Member Society -- was active in the IARU and served as a member of the IARU Observer Team at a number of World Radiocommunication Conferences. He is perhaps best remembered for his work on Article 25 -- a package of revisions to the international Radio Regulations that are specific to the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services -- at WRC-03.

Amateur Radio societies around the world have benefited from Owen's enthusiasm and experience; he was passionately involved with the Amateur Radio Service since the 1960s, and served as IARU Vice President from 1989-1999.

"I am very saddened to hear about Michael's sudden passing," IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, told the ARRL. "I was only speaking to him a few days ago and he was very enthused about leading the IARU Region 3 Conference in Ho Chi Minh City in a few weeks. Michael was a good friend and mentor to many of us in IARU. His drafting skills were second to none, and his ability to clearly articulate his position on a number of issues was of immeasurable help to us. The IARU is indebted to his work at WRCs and at many regional Asia Pacific

Telecommunications meetings." Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/iaru-region-3-chairman-michael-owen-vk3ki-sk>.

==> + ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO MEET IN COLORADO THIS WEEKEND

The ARRL Executive Committee will meet Saturday, September 29 in Denver, Colorado. ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, serves as Chairman of the Executive Committee. Five Division Directors who are elected by the ARRL Board of Directors are also on the committee: Midwest Division Director Cliff Ahrens, K0CA; Northwestern Division Director Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF; Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG; Rocky Mountain Division Director Brian Mileshosky, N5ZGT, and West Gulf Division Director David Woolweaver, K5RAV. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, and ARRL First Vice President Rick Roderick, K5UR, are non-voting members of the Executive Committee. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and Second Vice President Bruce Frahm, K0BJ, will also attend the meeting. Click here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-executive-committee-to-meet-in-colorado>
for the meeting's agenda.

==> FEDERAL EMPLOYEES CAN HELP SUPPORT ARRL THROUGH THE 2012 COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

For the past 11 years, the US Office of Personnel Management has designated the ARRL as a participant in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This campaign for federal government civilian employees, US Postal Service workers and members of the military has generated almost $192,000 for ARRL programs since it first became an option for federal employees to donate to the League. The CFC provides an easy way to support the ARRL's effort to represent its members and all radio amateurs. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/federal-employees-can-help-support-arrl-through-the
-2012-combined-federal-campaign>.

==> + AT THE WORKBENCH: ATTENTION KIT BUILDERS -- THE ARRL WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The ARRL wants to hear from kit builders about simple, useful, educational and exciting kits. These kits should have a high probability for success and would serve as stepping stones for more advanced projects. We are looking all sorts of kits, but RF detector kits that work in the 380 MHz-2.5 GHz range are of special interest. The kits should also have a "Wow, I built this and it works!" factor. If you know of such a kit, please let us know by filling out a simple form here <http://www.arrl.org/technology> by October 31.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "We all shine on, like the Moon and the stars and the Sun
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqP3wT5lpa4>" Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers rose this week from 56 to 81.3, while the average daily solar flux increased from 101.4 to 129.7. This increase is expected to continue over the next few days, with the solar flux

peaking at 150 on September 28-29, then going to 145 on September 30-October 1, 140 and 135 on October 2-3, 130 on October 4-5, 125 on October 6-7, 120 on October 8, 115 on October 9-10, 120 on October 11, 115 on October 12-13, and 120 on October 14-15. It is then expected to rise to a peak of 150 on October 20 and 150 again on October 25-26, with the average solar flux on October 21-24 around 141. The average planetary A index declined from 7.4 last week to 4.3 this week. The predicted planetary A index values are 5 on every day through October 2, then 10 on October 3, 8 on October 4-5, and 5 on October 6-11. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, September 28. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by John Lennon's Instant Karma! <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Instant_Karma!>

==> ARRL HQ SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR QST TECHNICAL EDITOR

The League is currently looking to fill the position of QST Technical Editor at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. Connecticut residency or the ability to relocate to Connecticut is required. The QST Technical Editor will provide leadership to the technical Amateur Radio community by developing and promulgating a vision of the state of the Amateur Radio art through the pages of QST.

Qualifications:

- Broad knowledge of and experience with Amateur Radio and electronics.
- Broad knowledge of and experience with the design and construction of Amateur Radio equipment, antennas and accessories.
- Broad knowledge of and experience with Amateur Radio software.
- A bachelor or graduate college degree, preferably in a technical field. Exceptional related work history can be substituted for a degree.
- A minimum of three years of writing or editing experience.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively and productively with a variety of people.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office, especially Word and Excel.
- An Amateur Extra class license.

Click here <http://www.arrl.org/employment-opportunities> for more information and an application. To apply, please send your cover letter and resume via e-mail <mlevesque@arrl.org?subject=Technical20Position>, or complete the application, print it out and mail it with your resume and cover letter to Monique Levesque, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. You can also fax your application, cover letter and resume to 860-594-0298. Please include your salary history and salary requirements. The ARRL is an equal opportunity employer.

==> + SILENT KEY:ETHIOPIAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY CHAIRMAN SID T. MAY, ET3SID (SK)

Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society (EARS) Chairman Sid T. May,
ET3SID/G4CTQ/AB3OZ, passed away September 25. In 1993, May established
ET3AA, the first Amateur Radio club in Ethiopia. According to
Hailemelekot Negussie, AB3OX, of EARS (Ethiopia's IARU Member Society),
May taught Amateur Radio licensing classes in Ethiopia for more than 15
years. An accredited ARRL Volunteer Examiner, May administered the FCC
Amateur Radio license exam to prospective Ethiopian hams. He took part
in administering an FCC exam session in December 2011 where more than
50 Ethiopians received US call signs; May gave his last exam session on
September 10, with 18 sitting for the exam. "Sid was a teacher, a
mentor and a father to all of us at ET3AA," Negussie explained. "We
feel very saddened about the news, and extend our condolences to his
family and wish for his soul to rest in peace. Sid is survived by
hundreds of ambitious radio hams and engineers who will forever be
inspired by his humbleness and vision." Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/ethiopian-amateur-radio-society-chairman-sid-t-may-
et3sid-sk>.

==> SILENT KEY: EVERETT GRACEY, WA6CBA (SK)

Everett Gracey, WA6CBA, of Grass Valley, California, passed away on
August 26. He was 90. In 1979, Gracey -- along with Ken, K6HCP, and
Jacqui Holladay -- founded Mirage Communications in Gilroy, California.
After selling Mirage, Gracey founded RF Concepts in 1986. Both Mirage
and RF Concepts sold and manufactured VHF and UHF amplifiers. After
Gracey sold RF Concepts, he continued to lead the company's marketing
team for the next six years. In August 2000, Gracey joined forces with
LDG Electronics as its dealer representative and marking consultant.
Gracey was also responsible for bringing Alinco Electronics -- a radio
manufacturer in Osaka, Japan -- into the USA marketplace. Read more
here <http://www.arrl.org/news/everett-gracey-wa6cba-sk>.

==> + LAST MAN STANDING PRODUCER CANCELS SPECIAL EVENT

Due to concerns over perceived violations of Section 97.113(a)(3)
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title47-vol5/pdf/CFR-2011-title47-vol5
-sec97-113.pdf>,
Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, has cancelled the Last
Man Standing Special Event Station planned for October 28
<http://www.arrl.org/news/em-last-man-standing-em-plans-special-event-station
>.
Amodeo had applied for and received a 1 1 call sign -- K6T -- to use
for the event that would have taken place on the show's set. Last Man
Standing stars Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT. "Although the intent
of the Special Event Station was to celebrate and promote ham radio, it
might be interpreted as promotion for the show and that cannot be
permitted," Amodeo explained. "While we are disappointed with the
cancelation of what would have been a fun, one-of-a-kind event, I know
that as a licensed amateur and producer of broadcast programs,
compliance with the FCC rules takes precedence. We will find other fun
ways to use our station and promote ham radio soon. Mike Baxter's
fictitious station, KA0XTT, will continue to appear on the set of Last

Man Standing, but the radios will remain silent." Last Man Standing
<http://beta.abc.go.com/shows/last-man-standing> begins its second
season on Friday, November 2 at 8/7 Central.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- September 29 -- Microwave Fall Sprint (local time)
- September 29-30 -- Texas QSO Party; CQ WW RTTY Contest
- October 2 -- ARS Spartan Sprint
- October 3 -- German Telegraphy Contest
- October 3 -- 432 MHz Fall Sprint (local time)

Next week:

- October 5 -- NCCC Sprint
- October 5-7 -- YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest
- October 6 -- TARA PSK Rumble Contest; EU Autumn Sprint (SSB)
- October 6-7 -- ARRL EME Contest <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>;
California QSO Party; EPC Russia DX Contest; Oceania DX Contest (SSB);
WAB HF Phone Contest
- October 7 -- UBA ON Contest (SSB)
- October 10 -- 10-10 International 10-10 Day Sprint; NAQCC Straight
Key/Bug Sprint
- October 10-11 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- September 28-29 -- SEDCO/W4DXCC VIII Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/sedco-w4dxcc-viii-convention>, Pigeon
Forge, Tennessee
- October 7 -- ARRL Connecticut State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/connecticut-state-convention-nutmeg-hamfest>,
Meriden, Connecticut
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>,
Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>,
Melbourne, Florida
- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest
-computer-expo-1>,
Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes
t-computer-show'>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-
1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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206. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1833 - September 28 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-28 09:00:10 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20120928090003.2FC8733C7E@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 375
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1833 - September 28 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1833 with a release date of
September 28 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. Dedicated Cubesat downlinks to be discussed at
WRC 2018; Ofcom lifts spectrum restrictions imposed because of London
Summer Olympics; Kosovo takes to the ham radio airwaves and the results
of the World Radio Direction Finding competition. Find out the details
are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1833 coming your way
right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: DEDICATED CUBESAT DOWNLINKS FOR DISCUSSION AT
WRC-18

IARU Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD, reports that the International
Amateur Radio Union's Administrative Council will meet in the next 45
days to address the agenda items for the 2015 World Radiocommunication
Conference. Planning for the dedicated spectrum for university
research cubesats will begin at that gathering, but the actual
allocation of frequencies may not occur until the 2018 World
Radiocommunication Conference.

In an article posted on the ARRL web, Stafford noted, "A lot of radio
amateurs are aware of the increasing use of amateur spectrum by small
satellites, mainly by universities. It is becoming an increasingly
difficult situation to accommodate the number of small, non-commercial
satellites within the amateur bands. These education-based satellites
do not really fit within the definition of the Amateur Radio Service,
but have been accommodated there.

According to W6ROD, these small birds are categorized as
nano-satellites weighing between 1 to 10 kilogram and pico-satellites
weighing less than 1 kilogram. The International Telecommunications
Union is trying to deal with this issue in an orderly manner and a
`preliminary' WRC-18 agenda item is to consider whether these satellite
operations can be accommodated in an already crowded radio spectrum is
being researched.

Stafford concludes by noting that as these issues develop, the IARU
will keep its Member-Societies, such as the ARRL, aware of developments
with an eye to building the best strategy to deal with those agenda

items in a way that is most favorable to the Amateur Radio Service.

You can read the full article, including many other IARU agenda items at tinyurl.com/looking-at-tinysats. (ANS, ARRL)

**

RESCUE RADIO: UK PARISHES ABANDONING EMCOMM SYSTEM FOR CELLPHONES AND RAYNET

An emergency radio system that has provided a lifeline to Heathfield in the United Kingdom for 25 years is to be scrapped and to be replaced by cellular telephones. But users of the ageing service have criticized the decision to rely on patchy mobile phone service in an emergency. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has the details:

--

That's right Jim. It is supposed to go away and here's why.

The radio system was created back in 1987 after what has been called the Great Storm. Six parishes still have the gear in service to use emergency situations.

But the district council now wants to abolish them because they are too expensive to maintain. The council pays 3,600 British Pounds a year to maintain the radio gear and a repeater that they are used through.

Parish councilor Bob Wood who has one of the old radios. He says that while thee gear my be old and possibly inadequate for what they want, that doing away with them is silly. He notes that mobile phone networks can only hold a certain number of calls at a time if an emergency happens.

But according to Jim van den Bos, of the District Council, the Wealden emergency radio network radio equipment is now old, less reliable and more difficult to repair. He says that last year a survey of parishes was conducted asking which had been active in the network over the past three years. Out of the 15 who took part, only seven were in favor of continuing.

So what will happen when the old emergency radio system falls silent? According to van den Bos it will likely be ham radio that will be used to augment the cellular network. In a statement he said that the council supports local members of a network of amateur radio users called RAYNET who are willing to respond in an emergency.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

RAYNET in the UK would be quite similar to a combined RACES and ARES here in the United States. (Sussix Courier, Northcliff Media, Southgate)

**

RADIO LAW: OFCOM LIFTS TEMPORARY SPECTRUM RESTRICTIONS ON UHF AND SHF BANDS USED FOR OLYMPICS

UK telecommunications regulator Ofcom has announced that as of midnight on September 23rd, temporary operating restrictions on parts of the 70 centimeter and several microwave bands have come to an end. The restrictions on spectrum usage by British radio amateurs had been put in place to permit use of several spectral parcels in relation to the now conceded 2012 London Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. (RSGB)

**

BREAKING DX NEWS: KOSOVO NOW OFFICIALLY ON THE AIR

The Republic of Kosovo is now officially on the air. Station Z-60-K near Pristina commenced amateur radio operation shortly after 1700 UTC on September 17th. The call had been issued to the club station of the Amateur Radio Association of Kosovo. For this operation QSL via G3TXF or using ClubLog.

It has to be noted that as Kosovo is not yet a member of the United Nations nor does it have an assigned callsign block allocated by the International Telecommunications Union, it does not meet the established requirements of the ARRL's DXCC program at this time. However CQ has recognized Kosovo as a separate entity for its award and contest programs since 2007. More is on line at www.art-ks.org (DXNL, CQ Newsroom)

**

DX SPECIAL: AZORES 9 ISLANDS HUNT SEPT 29 - 30

While short notice, all nine of the Azores islands will be operational from 12:00 UTC on Saturday, September 29th through 12:00 UTC on Sunday September 30th. This a part of the Azores 9 Islands Hunt operating event.

Callsigns to be used are CU1ARM from Santa Maria; CU2ARA from San Miguel; CU3URA on Terceira; CU4ARG from Graciosa; CU5AM on Sao Jorge; CU6GRP on Pico; CU7CRA from Faial; CU8ARF on Flores and CU9AC operating on Corvo.

Operations on CW will be from 7.000 to 7.015, 14.050 to 14.065 and 18.080 to 18.090 MHz. SSB phone operations will be found on 7.175 to 7.195, 14.250 to 14. 275 and 18.120 through 18.135 MHz.

But that's not all. Those holding a QSO with at least 5 different islands will have a corresponding number of tickets placed into a lottery for a free trip to the Azores. Additionally, the first 25 operators making QSOs with all 9 islands will be eligible for a second lottery.

All QSOs will be confirmed through the bureau network with special full-color cards. Direct QSL requests via CU2CE. More information on this activation and trip give-away is on-line at azores-islands-hunt.com. And we will have more DX related news at the end of this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (OH2BH)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Dirty Dozen Club Net in Des Moines Iowa.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: YET ANOTHER FLORIDA UNLICENSED BROADCASTER BUSTED BY THE FCC

>From the seemingly never ending Florida unlicensed radio station scene comes word that the FCC's Miami Office has issued yet another Notice of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture. This time the recipient of a proposed $10,000 fine is Burt Byng of Miami who the regulatory agency claims operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 107.1 MHz. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

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By way of background, this past February 9th agents from the Enforcement Bureau's Miami Office T-hunted the source of a signal on the 107.1 MHz to a transmitting antenna mounted on the roof of a commercial property in Miami. The agents determined that the signals on 107.1 MHz exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 of the Commission's rules and therefore required a license. While monitoring the transmission, the agents also heard the station identify itself on the air as "WEROC Radio." Commission records showed that no authorization was issued to Burt Byng or to anyone else for operation of an FM broadcast station at or near this address.

On the same date, agents from the Miami Office, accompanied by the property owner, inspected the unlicensed station's antenna and transmitter located on the rooftop of the commercial building. According to information provided by the property owner, a company called J & B Enterprise US, Inc. was the tenant of the particular area where the transmitting equipment was located.

The property owner provided a copy of Burt Byng's driver's license and identified him as the individual who rented the rooftop space. According to Florida records, Byng is the President of an inactive business named "J & B Enterprises US, Inc."

While researching the matter the agents also discovered that Mr. Byng registered the domain name, ww.werocradio.com, a webpage for "WEROC

Radio." The agents also noticed that the phone number listed in the domain registration was the same phone number listed on in the information provided by the property owner.

In issuing the $10,000 NAL the FCC says that it finds that the record evidence in this case is sufficient to establish that Burt Byng violated Section 301 of the Act by operating radio transmission equipment without the required Commission authorization. As such he is liable for the proposed fine.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles

--.

As is usual, Byng was given the customary 30 days to pay the $10,000 NAL or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC EXTENDS COMMENTARY DEADLINE ON MD DOCKET 12-201

The public as well as concerned industries have been given more time to tell the FCC what they think of the agency's process for collecting regulatory fees as outlined in MD Docket 12-201. Originally, comments on commission proposals to reform the way in which it evaluates the regulatory fees for the industries it regulates were due by September 17th. While that date has passed, the agency has announced that the new commentary cutoff date is October 9th, with reply comments due by October 23rd.

The FCC also says that it would also like to receive comments on a recent report from the Government Accountability Office. That report is titled "The Federal Communications Commission Regulatory Fee Process Needs to Be Updated." In that document the Accountability Office observes, among other things, that the commission's regulatory fee, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking proposes some fundamental changes to FCC's regulatory fee program that relate to many of the concerns raised in its report. (FCC, RW)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: LAST MAN STANDING K6T SPECIAL EVENT CANCELLED

The highly publicized Last Man Standing K6T operating event will not take place. This according to the television shows Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA.

The thank you to the ham radio community had been slated to happen on Sunday, October 28th. According to Amodeo the decision to cancel was based on concerns about a possible violation of FCC Regulation 97.113(a)(3).

For those not aware, this rule bars any communications using ham radio in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest. It also precludes any communications on behalf of an employer.

In making the announcement Amodeo notes that while everyone involved with the planned operation are very disappointed with the cancellation of what would have a fun, one of a kind event, that as a licensed radio amateur and producer of broadcast programs, compliance with FCC rules must take precedence.

Special event station K6T would have worked hams from around world on HF, VHF, UHF, D-STAR and IRLP. While that's not going to take place the good news is that the ham station that is a part of the set of Last Man Standing will remain and continue to be a part of the shows ongoing plot line. (NN6JA)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: HAM RADIO AT THE USAF MARATHON

David Crawford, KF4KWW, reports that over fifty amateur radio operators from all over the greater Dayton, Ohio. area and coming from as far away as Detroit, Michigan, recently converged on Wright Patterson Air Force Base. This, support the 2012 United States Air Force Marathon held on Saturday, September 15th.

Ham radio operators provided emergency and logistic communications between the race director and his staff. They also assisted with communications to the hydration stations positioned throughout the course.

The United States Air Force Marathon is described as a world class event with over 15000 participants registered and another estimated 15000 volunteers and spectators in attendance. Amateur radio operators were indispensable in communicating information on runner's locations and status, weather heat indexes settings, severe weather notifications and logistic issues.

Robert Aguiar is the marathon Race Director. He says that the senior base leaders of the event have come rely on the communication skills of the amateur radios operators and use them a as a vital resource. He adds that this race would be extremely difficult if not impossible to accomplish without their support and dedication. More about this event is on-line at www.usafmarathon.com. (KF4KWW)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: AMATEUR RADIO TO ASSIST AT VK NATIONAL FUN FLIGHT DAY 2012

Amateur Radio will once again be a part of Australia's National Fun Flight Day this coming November 4th. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, has the details:

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National Fun Flight Day is an event staged by Australian flying clubs to provide pleasure flights for children and families touched by adversity. Amateur radio began its association with this event back in 2011. Thats when the Victoria-based Midland Amateur Radio Club and its station VK3CMZ were invited to participate in the National FunFlight Day by the Bendigo Flying Club. The Midland Club was more than happy to oblige and an operating High Frequency, VHF and UHF station was set up at the event site. A handheld in a plane also provided communication back to children on the ground.

The operation was deemed a major success and the Midland Committee saw it as a worthwhile national amateur radio event. So it then approached the FunFlight manager regarding other amateur clubs' participation. The result of the meeting was very positive and contact information has now been provided to participating flying clubs so that they can contact their nearest amateur radio club.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, in Nelson, New Zealand.

--

More event information on this fun in the sky event down-under is on-line at www.funflight.org. (Midland Amateur Radio Club)

**

WITH ARNEWSLINE: ARNEWSLINE FACEBOOK PAGES BREAKS 1000 BARRIER

The Amateur Radio Newsline fan page on Facebook has just passed the 1000 subscriber point. In fact, as we go to air, the number of members subscribed stands at 1004.

The page is managed for Amateur Radio Newsline by James Pastorfield, KB7TBT, who devotes a lot of time and energy to it. So as we pass the 1000 mark and hopefully head toward 2000 or more, we want to pause to thank KB7TBT for his volunteerism in making the page possible and to all of you who contribute to it.

If you are on Facebook but have not yet joined the Amateur Radio Newsline family, you can find us there at by simply typing Amateur Radio Newsline in the blue Facebook search line. We would love to have you there with us. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: BILL TYNAN W3XO TO RECEIVE RCA BARRY GOLDWATER AWARD

The Radio Club of America has announced that former AMSAT North America President Bill Tynan, W3XO, is to be the recipient of its 2012 Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio Award. The award recognizes Tynan's lifelong service to the public through amateur radio.

The award will be presented to W3XO at the club's annual awards banquet in New York on November 16th. ARRL Chief Executive Officer Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, will be the keynote speaker at the event. (RCA, W2RS)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: WIA PRESIDENT MICHAEL OWEN, VK3SI - S.K.

The changing of the guard in our service continues. This, with the sad news that Michael Owen, VK3KI, the Chairman of Region III of the International Amateur Radio Union and President of the Wireless Institute of Australia has became a Silent Key.

Owen's sudden passing came after suffering what is only being described as a medical condition at his home on Saturday, September the 22nd.

During his many volunteer years, Owen, who was age 75 at the time of his passing, participated in many IARU committees and had been a member of the IARU Observer Team at a number of World Radiocommunication Conferences. He served as IARU Vice President from 1989 to 1999 and is perhaps best remembered for his work on a package of revisions to the international Radio Regulations. These were specific to the Amateur Radio and Amateur Satellite services and presented at the 2003 World Radiocommunications Conference.

Michael Owen, VK3KI, is survived by his wife Nan, and his two daughters. His funeral was to be held on Friday, September 28th at St Andrews Anglican Church in Brighton. Australia. Condolence messages can be sent via the Wireless Institute of Australia by e-mail to condolences (at) WIA (dot) org (dot) au or direct to the surviving family members at PO Box 2042, Bayswater, Victoria 3153 Australia. (WIA, VK6POP)

**
WORLDBEAT: NEW FOCUS FOR RADIO NETHERLANDS WORLDWIDE

The Board of Supervisors of Radio Netherlands Worldwide has appointed William Valkenburg as editor-in-chief. This, effective January 1st of 2013.

According to the announcement, Valkenburg will set out the new course for the organization with the recently appointed director general Robert Zaal. The broadcaster will focus on free speech in countries where press freedom is limited and Valkenburg will take responsibility

for journalism within the organization.

As of 2013, Radio Netherlands Worldwide's main focus will be on Africa, and the Arab World, as well as countries such as China, Cuba and Venezuela. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: FRENCH POLYNESIA GETS BROADBAND ACCESS

Another remote area of the world is now on-line. Amateur Radio Newsline's Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, has the details:

--

High speed Internet access has come to the islands of the South Pacific. This with word that OmniAccess has expanded its network coverage in the remote French Polynesian islands.

The news follows the company's investment into the opening of a high-capacity network on the Intelsat 18 satellite that first became operational in November 2011. This provides the capacity to enable enhanced broadband internet coverage and network services via Ku-band coverage platform to that isolated part of the world.

As a result, for the first time private yachts, charter yachts and commercial vessels cruising in the region can now benefit from high quality uninterrupted broadband connectivity via the new high speed service.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, reporting.

--

More on this new service can be found by going to www.noonsite.com and using the search engine at that website. (noonsite.com via K4CPX)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: DARC AND GERMAN NSI COLLABORATE ON FIELD STRENGTH ARTICLE

The National Standards Institute of Germany in cooperation with the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club have jointly authored an article on the calibration of field strength monitors that has been published in the publication Advances in Radio Science'. The article covers a detailed description of a possible calibration setup including uncertainty calculations. You can download an abstract and the full article at tinyurl.com/field-strength-monitors. (DARC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: WESTERN STATES VHF/UHF WEAK SIGNAL NET ON SUNDAYS

The Western States VHF/UHF Weak Signal 75m Net meets every Sunday on 3.920 MHz at 17:30 Pacific Daylight Time. This net is a wide ranging

discussion dealing with all aspects of VHF to microwave building, contesting, and operating. More about this weekly gathering is on-line at www.weaksig.net (N8DEZ)

**

DX

In DX, G0VJG will be operational stroke 3A from Monaco between October 1st and the 5th. His activity will be on the High Frequency bands using 100 watts on SSB only. QSL via G4DFI.

A multi-national team is on the air from Conway Reef in the South Pacific Ocean. They plan to be there through October 5th using the callsign will be 3D2C. Their QSL manager is YT1AD.

DL7VSN will be active from Tanzania through October 13th. His operation will be from two locations using the 5H1HS from Zanzibar Island and 5H1HS/3 from Lazy Lagoon Island. Activity is expected on 160 through 10 meters using mainly CW and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign. More about his operation is on-line at Visit his Web page at www.qsl.net/dl7vsn

Lastly word that DJ7RJ who was expected to be active stroke FR from Reunion Island between September 26th and October 21st, has announced he had to cancel his trip. No reason for the cancellation was given. (Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM:

And finally this week, hidden transmitter hunters held their world championships this month and hams from the USA came home with more medals than ever. Amateur Radio Newsline's Joe Moell, K0OV, the details.

--

Every two years, on-foot hidden transmitter hunters get together to see who is best in the world. The Sixteenth World Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding, or ARDF, took place at a ski resort in the mountains of central Serbia. In these big forests, about 330 foxhunters from 33 countries searched for transmitters on two meters and 80 meters using direction finding gear, maps, and compasses, but no GPS. USA was represented by nine men and four women from six states. They ranged in age from 27 to 71.

In previous world championships, USA has won no more than two medals, and no golds. But this year, the team members packed thirteen medals into their suitcases, including four golds.

Standing on the medal podium and hearing the Star-Spangled Banner the most times was Bob Cooley KF6VSE of Pleasanton, California. He won two

golds in the division for men over age 70 in the World Cup competition for individuals and another gold for his two-meter run during the main ARDF competitions. Also winning a playing of our national anthem was Vadim Afonkin KB1RLI of Newton, Massachusetts, who was this year's Team Captain. His gold medal was in the 80-meter ARDF competition.

Other Team USA members on the podium included Jay Hennigan WB6RDV of Goleta, California, who was a silver medalist on 80 meters. Winning bronze in their divisions on that band were Alla Mezhevaya of Loves Park, Illinois, Ruth Bromer WB4QZG of Raleigh, North Carolina and Karla Leach KC7BLA of Bozeman, Montana.

Team USA members earned their right to go to Serbia by medaling in the USA ARDF Championships this June at Mt. Laguna, California and in earlier US championships.

You can read more about Team USA and the ARDF World Championships at www.homingin.com. There are plenty of photos, plus links to the complete results. That's homingin, as one word, homingin.com.

>From southern California, where ARDF activities take place all year long, this is Joe Moell, K0OV, for the Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

Again, more information is on-line at www.homingin.com. And "homingin" is spelled as one word. (K0OV)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org.

And a reminder to those of you who still receive these newscasts over our 661-296-2407 dial in line rater than downloading the MP3 file from our website. Of late we have noticed a major decline in the number of those calling into it and as such we are giving consideration to discontinuing it by years end. But before we do, we want to know how many people are actually using it. If you are one of those who call in each week on the phone, please send us a note telling us who you are and the reason you are using telephone access rather than simply downloading the newscast from the Internet.

Our address is the Amateur Radio Newsline, 28197 Robin Avenue, Saugus California, 91350. Or, as we said, you can e-mail us at newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. We look forward to hearing from you.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, saying 73 from Charleston, West Virginia. And, as always, we thank you for listening.

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207. FCC Daily Digest 09/28/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-09-28 16:02:53 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524301-2012.09.28-11.23.10--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 376
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 189 September 28, 2012

[...]

TERMINATION OF CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS AS DORMANT. Terminated, as dormant, a number of proceedings with inactive dockets. (Dkt No. 12-39). Action by: Acting Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau. Adopted: 09/27/2012 by ORDER. (DA No. 12-1545). CGB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1545A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1545A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1545A1.txt

[...]

208. FCC Daily Digest 10/01/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-01 17:07:55 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524368-2012.10.01-12.03.33--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 377
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 190 October 01
, 2012
* * * * *

[...]

Released: 10/01/2012. EX PARTE PRESENTATIONS AND POST-REPLY COMMENT PERI
OD FILING IN PERMIT-BUT-DISCLOSURE PROCEEDINGS RECEIVED ON 9/24/2012. OMD
. Contact: Jason Lewis at (202) 418-0300 http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_pu
blic/attachmatch/DOC-316536A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-316536A1.txt

[...]

2006 BIENNIAL REGULATORY REVIEW -- REVISION OF PART 25. Amended various
provisions of Part 25 of the Commission's rules pertaining to licensing and
operation of satellite service radio stations. (Dkt No. 06-154). Action
by: the Commission. Adopted: 09/24/2012 by R&O. (FCC No. 12-116). IB ht
tp://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-116A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-116A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-116A1.txt

[...]

209. Re: FCC Daily Digest 10/01/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-02 14:18:41 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <506aee79$0$97794$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 378
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <ADMIN-44256-524368-2012.10.01-12.03.33--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
noreply@info.fcc.gov writes:

>(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

>Daily Digest

>Vol. 31 No. 190 October 01
>, 2012
> * * * * *

> [...]

> Released: 10/01/2012. EX PARTE PRESENTATIONS AND POST-REPLY COMMENT PERI
>OD FILING IN PERMIT-BUT-DISCLOSURE PROCEEDINGS RECEIVED ON 9/24/2012. OMD
>. Contact: Jason Lewis at (202) 418-0300 http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_pu
>blic/attachmatch/DOC-316536A1.pdf
>http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-316536A1.txt

> [...]

The ARRL filed a Response to an Ex Parte presentation made by Current
Group, LLC (a manufacturer of BPL equipment) in the matter of ET Docket
No. 04-37 ("AMENDMENT OF PART 15 REGARDING NEW REQUIREMENTS AND
MEASUREMENT GUIDELINES FOR ACCESS BROADBAND OVER POWER LINE SYSTEMS")
and ET Docket No. 03-104 ("CARRIER CURRENT SYSTEMS INCLUDING BROADBAND
OVER POWER LINE SYSTEMS") on September 24, 2012. The entire text of the
ARRL's most recent filing may be found in the FCC's Electronic Comment
Filing System (ECFS) at:

http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7022020455

Previous Ex Parte presentations to the FCC from the ARRL concerning ET
Docket Nos: 03-104 and 04-37, dated November 30, 2010, June 9, 2011, and
December 20, 2011, including attached exhibits, may be found in the ECFS
at:

http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016878685
http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016878554
http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016878684
http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016878557
http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=6016062528
http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7021688070

All proceedings on these two dockets may be found at:

http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=04-37
http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=03-104

ARRL Counsel Christopher Imlay, W3KD, continues to be in top form in this most recent filing, spicing up his comments with rhetorical and legal gems like these:

"Although the Commission's rules[1] do not permit a subrebuttal to a reply to an opposition to a petition for reconsideration in a docket proceeding (and it is arguable that Current's August 8, 2012 subrebuttal is impermissible as the result), that is not here determinative because Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules appears to permit ex parte submissions in this context, thus allowing Current, by so identifying its subrebuttal, to prolong the pleading cycle in this case indefinitely. However, nothing in Current's August 8, 2012 filing validates the indefensible 40 dB/decade extrapolation factor. It is disingenuous as well for Current to assert that ARRL has presented new material in its reply pleading when Current itself, in its subrebuttal pleading, has introduced a new argument concerning near-field boundaries, and has introduced (but misapplied) a formula not heretofore mentioned in the record, in an effort to establish those boundaries."

[1] See, 47 C.F.R. - 1.429

The first sentence sort of makes sense to a layman if you read it backwards, and several times, as that's the time order of the proceedings in these dockets over the last 9 years that gets us to where we are now.

Attachments are from Ed Hare, W1RFI, and an engineering consulting firm called "Time Derivative", that quite clearly debunk the technical claims of Current Group, LLC, even if the FCC accepts that they were filed in a timely and permissible manner.

I've showed this ongoing correspondence on BPL to a relative who's not a ham, but is a lawyer. He says that these kinds of ongoing legal machinations, over long periods of time, where the real-world implications of what is being argued become far, far removed from the seemingly genteel, courteous, and highly complex, maneuverings of the legal experts, remind him of the novel "Bleak House" by Dickens, which is partially about the English Chancery Courts of the early 19th century and an obscure case running through those courts, long past the lifetimes of some of those having standing in the case, and on which no two legal expert with knowledge of the case can agree with one another on its merits and arguments. The fact that we (the ARRL and the amateur radio community) are right, and consistently right both legally and technically, may have little or no bearing on the final outcome, whenever in the far future it may occur, if at all.

(73, Paul, K3FU)

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlBq7jwACgkQ6Pj0az779o7B7gCgw/VvzHjCKVGahu5KJCH7AAop
hagAnivW92V7rcmjwjVhdAJKMvG+dGu1
=h64Y
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

210. Re: FCC Daily Digest 10/01/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-02 15:35:16 UTC
From: Patty Winter <patty1@wintertime.com>
Message-ID: <506b05e2$0$71235$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 379
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy

In article <506aee79$0$97794$540ea2cf@novia.net>,
Paul W. Schleck <pschleck@oasis.novia.net> wrote:
>
>I've showed this ongoing correspondence on BPL to a relative who's not a
>ham, but is a lawyer. He says that these kinds of ongoing legal
>machinations, over long periods of time, where the real-world
>implications of what is being argued become far, far removed from the
>seemingly genteel, courteous, and highly complex, maneuverings of the
>legal experts, remind him of the novel "Bleak House" by Dickens, which
>is partially about the English Chancery Courts of the early 19th century
>and an obscure case running through those courts, long past the
>lifetimes of some of those having standing in the case, and on which no
>two legal expert with knowledge of the case can agree with one another
>on its merits and arguments.

LOL, I thought of "the wards in Jarndyce" as soon as I read the first
part of the sentence just before you mentioned "Bleak House." Let's
hope the BPL case doesn't go multigenerational. :-)

>The fact that we (the ARRL and the amateur
>radio community) are right, and consistently right both legally and
>technically, may have little or no bearing on the final outcome,
>whenever in the far future it may occur, if at all.

Too true. :-(

Patty

211. FCC Daily Digest 10/02/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-02 17:05:58 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524378-2012.10.02-12.27.38--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 380
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 191 October 02
, 2012

[...]

Released: 10/02/2012. FCC SEEKS COMMENT ON PRELIMINARY VIEWS APPROVED BY
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2015 WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE. (
DA No. 12-1565). (Dkt No 04-286). Comments Due: 10/16/2012. IB . Contac
t: Alexander Roytblat at (202) 418-7150, email: Alexander.Roytblat@fcc.gov
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1565A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1565A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1565A3.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1565A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1565A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1565A2.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1565A3.txt

[...]

212. The ARRL Letter for October 4, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-04 22:21:59 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121004191832.C9D0F2DBE9F@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 381
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

October 4, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- + ARRL Invites Nominations for 2012 International Humanitarian Award
- + Check Out the November Issue of QST
- + Silent Key: Goran Savic, YT2A, Killed in Plane Crash
- + Public Service: The Weather Channel to Begin Naming Winter Storms
- ARRL in Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?
- + At the Workbench: Attention Kit Builders -- The ARRL Wants to Hear
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- Solar Update
- + ARRL Recognizes: Thomas Schaefer, NY4I, Wins September QST Cover
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- MFJ Celebrates 40th Anniversary
- ARRL HQ Seeks Applicants for QST Technical Editor
- This Week in Radiosport
- Amateur Radio Fun: New QuickStats Now Available on ARRL Website
- Amateur Astronomy Group Solicits Papers for New Mexico Conference
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + IARU NEWS: PETER LAKE, ZL2AZ, APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF IARU REGION 3

The Directors in IARU Region 3 have voted to appoint Peter Lake,
ZL2AZ, of Wellington, New Zealand, as the Chairman of IARU Region 3. He
replaces Michael Owen, VK3KI, who passed away unexpectedly last month.
Owen, who was also President of the Wireless Institute of Australia,
had served as Region 3 Chairman since 2006. "I am extremely grateful to
my fellow Directors for their support in this difficult time, and for
the procedural work by [IARU Region 3] Secretary Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP,
to formalize an appointment," Lake said in a statement. "I will do my
best to carry through all the work that we have in progress, much of it
due to items and ideas put in place by Michael. It is my privilege to
```

have the opportunity to serve you, the Member Societies and fellow amateurs in Region 3." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/peter-lake-zl2az-appointed-chairman-of-iaru-region-3>.

==> + ARRL INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations are open for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award. This award is conferred upon an amateur or amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established the annual prize to recognize those radio amateurs who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster. As one of the few telecommunication services that allow people throughout the world from all walks of life to meet and talk with each other, Amateur Radio spreads goodwill across political boundaries. The ARRL International Humanitarian Award recognizes the Amateur Radio Service's unique role in international communication and the assistance amateurs regularly provide to people in need. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-invites-nominations-for-2012-international-humanitarian-award>.

==> + CHECK OUT THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF QST

Ever since the dawn of civilization, man has looked to the heavens and pondered his existence. Thousands of years later, we still look to the stars, but with radio, the stars seem a little closer. The November issue of QST features a group of middle school students from Arizona who reached for the stars with a high-altitude balloon launch and a QSO with the International Space Station. Join them on their adventure as you delve into the latest issue of QST.

Kaci Heins, KF7RCV, is a sixth grade teacher in Flagstaff, Arizona. In addition to her teaching duties, she leads the Space Spartans, an after-school science club. In her article "Reaching for the Stars with Radio," Heins tells how she used Amateur Radio -- including a high-altitude balloon launch with a repeater and a radio telescope project -- to capture her students' imaginations, both in and out of the classroom. Many states have laws against using cell phones in your car, making it illegal to talk or text behind the wheel. But what about using your mobile rig while driving? In his article "Distracted Driving and Amateur Radio -- A Civil (Law) Perspective," ARRL Volunteer Counsel John Swartz, WA9AQN, points out that operating mobile isn't just a legislative issue.

Amateur Radio clubs are always looking for projects they can do together. In his article "A Club Project -- Automatic Mobile Power Control," Jim Cook, W8WKE, details a simple and inexpensive APRS group project to give hams a way to experience the thrill of the workbench. With the advent of computers with built-in sound cards, the digital modes have gained popularity. Thomas W. Brooks, KE1R, has always been

fascinated -- and mystified -- by PSK31. In his article "PSK31 -- A Different View," Brooks found a way to not only hear the PSK31 tones, but to see them, too.

ARRL Contributing Editor H. Ward Silver, N0AX, takes a look at the Array Solutions AIMuhf vector impedance analyzer in this month's Product Review. He says this accessory "offers reflection and impedance-only measurements for dedicated and popular measurement functions. The host software creates easy-to-read displays and easy-to-use pre-programmed functions." ARRL Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM, checked out the DZKit HT-7 40 meter AM handheld transceiver, saying that it "is a fully functional single channel, crystal controlled 40 meter AM handheld transceiver kit that is fun to build and fun to operate. Users must accept the challenges of making contacts with low power and limited antennas while portable."

Of course, there are the usual columns you know and have come to expect in the November QST: Happenings, Hints & Kinks, The Doctor is In, Short Takes, Technical Correspondence, Vintage Radio, How's DX? and more, including lots of new books and products. Look for your November issue in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join, or to renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> + SILENT KEY: GORAN SAVIC, YT2A, KILLED IN PLANE CRASH

While on a routine training mission, Serbian Air Force Major Goran Savic, YT2A, was killed trying to direct his plane away from a residential area in Nova Pazova, Serbia. According to Nova Pazova Municipal President Dorde Radinovic, the plane crashed into the yard of a private house. Due to Savic's skill in maneuvering the aircraft, there were no casualties on the ground. "The aircraft went down between two structures, Radinovic explained to B92 <http://www.b92.net/eng/news/society-article.php?yyyy=2012&mm&dd=26&nav_id=82361>,
a Serbian news outlet. "One pilot ejected, while the other made an effort until the last moment (before ejecting) not to hit a house in this residential area. Once the plane stopped, there was no explosion either." According to B92, Savic was found close to his plane and was in serious condition when medical teams reached him. He later died at the hospital. Savic's co-pilot, Lieutenant Colonel Tomislav Becagovic, managed to jump out of the aircraft before impact and survived the crash.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: THE WEATHER CHANNEL TO BEGIN NAMING WINTER STORMS

Beginning this winter, The Weather Channel will begin naming what it calls "noteworthy winter storms." As The Weather Channel explained on its website, "[a] storm with a name is easier to follow, which will mean fewer surprises and more preparation. In addition to providing information about significant winter storms by referring to them by

name, the name itself will make communication and information sharing in the constantly expanding world of social media much easier." Unlike the National Hurricane Center -- which has named tropical storms and hurricanes since the 1940s -- the National Weather Service does not name winter storms. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-weather-channel-to-begin-naming-winter-storms> <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-weather-channel-to-begin-naming-winter-storms>.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of September -- takes a look at how the ARRL is laying the groundwork for its 100th birthday celebration, planning for the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference, Section Manager training at ARRL Headquarters, operations approved for DXCC credit, improvements to W1AW, reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-50>.

==> + AT THE WORKBENCH: ATTENTION KIT BUILDERS -- THE ARRL WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The ARRL wants to hear from kit builders about simple, useful, educational and exciting kits. These kits should have a high probability for success and would serve as stepping stones for more advanced projects. We are looking all sorts of kits, but RF detector kits that work in the 380 MHz-2.5 GHz range are of special interest. The kits should also have a "Wow, I built this and it works!" factor. If you know of such a kit, please let us know by filling out a simple form here <http://www.arrl.org/technology> by October 31.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: A coronal mass ejection (CME) hit the Earth on September 30, causing a jump in geomagnetic indices. The planetary A index on October 1 was 31, while the K index went as high as 7, making aurora visible across the northern tier of the United States. The far-northern latitude college A index was 23 (near Fairbanks, Alaska), about the same as the mid-latitude index -- which was 21 -- in Fredericksburg, Virginia. It is common during a geomagnetic disturbance to see indices go much higher toward the poles than anywhere else. The average daily sunspot numbers declined 8.3 points to 73, while the average daily solar flux was off exactly 1 point to 128.7. The latest prediction from NOAA/USAF has solar flux on October 4-7 at 110, 105 on October 8, 100 on October 9-11, 115 on October 12-13, 120 on October 14, and then rising to a peak of 150 on October 20. The same forecast has solar flux rebounding to 150 on November 16 after reaching a minimum of 110 on November 4-5. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on October 4-14, then 8, 12 and 10 on October 15-17, 5 on October 18-25, 10 on October 26, and then reaching a peak of 15 on October 29. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, September 28. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical

Information Service Propagation page
<http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: THOMAS SCHAEFER, NY4I, WINS SEPTEMBER QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the August QST Cover Plaque award is Thomas Schaefer, NY4I, for his article "Your Antenna is on Fire!" Congratulations Thomas! The QST Cover Plaque Award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the October issue today.

==> MFJ CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

In October 1972, Martin F. Jue, K5FLU, started MFJ in a hotel room in Starkville, Mississippi. 40 years later, MFJ Enterprises <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/> consists of six different ham radio companies that manufacture more than 2000 products. To celebrate this milestone, MFJ will host ARRL Day in the Park <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/dayinpark.php> this weekend (October 6-7) at McKee Park <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/> in Starkville. An ARRL-sanctioned event, ARRL Day in the Park will feature tours of the MFJ facilities (including the factory and metal shop), tailgating, forums, demonstrations and lunch -- all at no cost to attendees. Special Event Station K5MFJ <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/dayinpark_event.php> will also be on the air. ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, and ARRL Mississippi Section Manager Malcolm Keown, W5XX, will represent the ARRL. Click here <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/dayinpark.php> to go to the ARRL Day in the Park website.

==> ARRL HQ SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR QST TECHNICAL EDITOR

The League is currently looking to fill the position of QST Technical Editor at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. Connecticut residency or the ability to relocate to Connecticut is required. The QST Technical Editor will provide leadership to the technical Amateur Radio community by developing and promulgating a vision of the state of the Amateur Radio art through the pages of QST.

Qualifications:

- Broad knowledge of and experience with Amateur Radio and electronics.
- Broad knowledge of and experience with the design and construction of Amateur Radio equipment, antennas and accessories.
- Broad knowledge of and experience with Amateur Radio software.
- A bachelor or graduate college degree, preferably in a technical field. Exceptional related work history can be substituted for a degree.
- A minimum of three years of writing or editing experience.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively and productively with a

variety of people.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office, especially Word and Excel.
- An Amateur Extra class license.

Click here <http://www.arrl.org/employment-opportunities> for more information and an application. To apply, please send your cover letter and resume via e-mail <mlevesque@arrl.org?subject=Technical20Position>, or complete the application, print it out and mail it with your resume and cover letter to Monique Levesque, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. You can also fax your application, cover letter and resume to 860-594-0298. Please include your salary history and salary requirements. The ARRL is an equal opportunity employer.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- October 5 -- NCCC Sprint
- October 5-7 -- YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest
- October 6 -- TARA PSK Rumble Contest; EU Autumn Sprint (SSB)
- October 6-7 -- ARRL EME Contest <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>; California QSO Party; EPC Russia DX Contest; Oceania DX Contest (SSB); WAB HF Phone Contest
- October 7 -- UBA ON Contest (SSB)
- October 10 -- 10-10 International 10-10 Day Sprint; NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
- October 10-11 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- October 12 -- NCCC Sprint
- October 13 -- EU Autumn Sprint (CW); FISTS Fall Sprint
- October 13-14 -- Arizona QSO Party; Pennsylvania QSO Party; Makrothen RTTY Contest; Oceania DX Contest (CW); QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party; Scandinavian Activity Contest (SSB)
- October 14 -- North American Sprint (RTTY); SKCC Weekend Sprintathon

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO FUN: NEW QUICKSTATS NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

- Have you built a project using an Arduino microcontroller?
- Do you subscribe to any Amateur Radio e-mail lists (reflectors)?

- Do you prefer extended conversations on the air, or short contacts?
- Was public service the primary motivation for getting your Amateur Radio license?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the January 2013 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> AMATEUR ASTRONOMY GROUP SOLICITS PAPERS FOR NEW MEXICO CONFERENCE

The Society of Amateur Radio Astronomers (SARA <http://www.radio-astronomy.org/>) -- an organization for those interested in radio astronomy -- is soliciting papers for presentation at its 2013 Western Regional Conference <http://www.radio-astronomy.org/node/394>, February 9-10, 2013 in Socorro, New Mexico. Papers on radio astronomy hardware, software, education, research strategies, observations and philosophy are welcome. SARA members or supporters wishing to present a paper should e-mail <westernconference@radio-astronomy> a letter of intent, including a proposed title and informal abstract or outline no later than December 1, 2012 (please inform SARA if more time is needed). Be sure to include your full name, affiliation, postal address and e-mail address, and indicate your willingness to attend the conference to present your paper. Submitters will receive a response via e-mail, typically within one week. Formal printed Proceedings will be published for this conference and all presentations can be made available on CD.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- October 6-7 -- ARRL Day in the Park <http://www.arrlmiss.org/>, Starkville, Mississippi
- October 7 -- ARRL Connecticut State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/connecticut-state-convention-nutmeg-hamfest>, Meriden, Connecticut
- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>, Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>, Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>, Melbourne, Florida
- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest-computer-expo-1>, Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes

t-computer-show'>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-
1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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213. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1834 Delayed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-05 23:53:30 UTC
From: rec-radio-info-request@panix.com
Message-ID: <1440624271.6491.1349480962047.JavaMail.root@aux132>
Source record: 382
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

The latest edition of Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) will be posted to the newsgroups as soon as it becomes available.

Title: Amateur Radio Newsline Report 1834 Delayed
Link:
http://www.arnewsline.org/news/2012/10/5/amateur-radio-newsline-report-1834-delayed.html

--
rec.radio.info Admin

214. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1834 - October 5 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-07 21:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121007210005.0EB3A33C9A@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 383
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1834 - October 5 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1834 with a release date of
October 5 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1. The following is a QST. 200

micro sized ham-sats to be orbited in a single launch; Radio Amateurs
of Canada wins a 5 year exemption for Ontario hams in distracted
driving legislation; the European Parliament gets involved in the BPL
controversary and the 2012 Scouting Jamboree on the Air is almost here.
Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number
1834 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: 200 MICRO HAM BIRDS TO BE LAUNCHED IN ONE MISSION

Two hundred tiny ham radio satellites will be going into space in the
not to distant future. The project is called KickSat and we have more
in this report.

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KickSat is an amateur radio CubeSat technology mission designed to
demonstrate the deployment and operation of prototype Sprite or tiny
ChipSats developed at Cornell University. The KickSat spaceframe is a
CubeSat being built to carry and deploy 200 Sprites that will provide
an avionics bus that will provide power, communications, command and
data handling functions. It will be mated with a 2 unit deployer that
has been developed to house the Sprites.

Approximately 200 Sprites will be stacked atop a spring-loaded pusher
and secured by a nichrome burn wire system. Once on-orbit, the wire
burns away the Sprites will spring out into space.

As to the Sprites, these are tiny spacecraft that includes power,
sensor, and communication systems. Its built on a printed circuit
board measuring 3.5 by 3.5 cm with a thickness of 2.5 mm and a mass of
about 5 grams. The Sprite is intended as a general purpose sensor
platform for micro-electro-mechanical or other chip-scale sensors with
the ability to downlink data to ground stations from Low Earth Orbit.

After deployment, telemetry and sensor measurements from the individual
Sprites will be received through Cornell's ground station in Ithaca,
New York, as well as several other amateur radio ground stations around
the world. The Sprites are expected to re-enter the atmosphere and

burn up within a few days or weeks depending on atmospheric conditions. Their best case maximum orbital lifetime is estimated at 6 weeks.

The development team is currently investigating uses for the KickSat spaceframe after the Sprite deployment and is seeking collaborators who could make use of its capabilities as part of another extended mission.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Studio in Los Angeles.

--

ChipSats like these Sprites represent a new technology that will both open space access to hobbyists and students and enable new types of science missions. A significant portion of KickSat has been financed by over 300 individual sponsors through a funding website. More is on-line at www.spacecraftresearch.com/KickSat. (KickSat)

**

WORLDBEAT: RAC WINS 5 YEAR EXTENSION FOR HAM RADIO FROM ONTARIO DISTRACTED DRIVING LAW

Some good news for hams living north of the United States and Canadaian border. Radio Amateurs of Canada says that it has received written confirmation from Minister Bob Chiarelli of the Ontario Provincial Government regarding a five year extension of exemption for radio amateurs to the Ontario province distracted driving law.

In his letter, Minister Chiarelli explains that the current exemptions for both Amateur Radio and Two Way Commercial Radios will be extended until January 1st, 2018. He also expresses his hope that in that time commercial hands free alternatives will be found for two way radios.

While Radio Amateurs of Canada says that it finds victory in the five year extension, it also says that a permanent solution is desired. As such it will continue to pursue a permanent exemption for amateur radio operators in Ontario provance.

Similar exemptions already exist in many other provincial jurisdictions in Canada. This, thanks in part to the efforts of local amateurs and Radio Amateurs of Canada's national strategy to address distracted driving legislation. (RAC, VE4WO)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT MEMBERS QUESTION INTERFERENCE FROM PROPOSED OPLT STANDARD

Ham radio operators in the UK have some new allies in their fight against a proposed pan-European Power Line Technology or PLT standard and the interference it could cause to broadcast as well as shortwave radio reception. This as questions are raised by two legislators it in the European Parliament about it. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim

Meachen, ZL2BHF, reports:

--

Syed Kamall is a Member of the European Parliament or MEP representing the city of London in the UK. He says that he has been contacted by several of his constituents who are concerned about a proposed standard for power line transmission devices. According to MEP Kamall, these constituents believe that if this standard is approved, the level of interference to all broadcast radio reception would increase to a level making it impossible to listen to a radio.

Those concerned explained to him that in 2011 a power line telecommunications electromagnetic compatibility standard was proposed by the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization. Kamall's constituents allege that the proposed standard was rejected by a majority of the National Standards Committees while many suggested improvements to the proposed standard. Some comments reaching him questioned the very high radio pollution levels that would be permitted from these devices, while other suggestions were aimed at improving the test methodology.

MEP Kamall goes on to note that while a revised version of the PLT standard is about to be circulated, his constituents believe it to be identical to the previously rejected standard, and that it rejects the suggestions from the National Standards Committees. Also that his constituents claim that representatives of PLT equipment manufacturers dominate the Working Group that wrote the proposed standard and are lobbying National Standards Committees to support that standard. This is because it would provide a legal basis for high PLT emission levels.

MEP Kamall is joined in his concern by Sir Graham Watson who is the Member of the European Parliament for South West England and Gibraltar. MEP Watson notes that his constituents also tell him that even though the Commission's Electromechanical Committee advisor has been notified that the proposed PLT standard does not meet the essential requirements of the EMC Directive, that the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization has ignored this advice. Also that it will continue to push the proposed PLT standard to be voted by the National Standards Committees. He then notes that concerns have been expressed that the possible new PLT standard may not be compliant with European Commission law.

Both legislators want to know if the Commission shares the concerns of their respective constituents over the proposed PLT Electromagnetic Compatibility standard. MEP Syed Kamall is even more direct. He asks that if the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization approves the proposed standard, is the Commission able to block it, and will it do so until it is deemed to meet the requirements of the EMC Directive?

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, down-under in Nelson, New Zealand.

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In his questions to the European Parliament Sir Graham Watson asks if the Commission confident that the new standard will satisfactorily comply with the European Union rules as set out in the EMC Directive? He also wants to know what dialogues have Commission officials held with European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization to ensure compliance. Meantime the UK ham radio community awaits replies to both of these inquiries. PLT in the Europe is very similar to what we call in-home access BPL here in the United States. (Southgate, UKQRM, others)

**

WORLDBEAT: ACMA ISSUES SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL OWEN, VK3KI - S.K.

The Australian Communications and Media Authority has issued a special tribute to Wireless Institute of Australia President and IARU Region 3 Chairman, Michael Owen VK3KI, who died unexpectedly Saturday, September 22nd.

According to the news release, the Australian Communications and Media Authority was saddened to hear of the death of Michael Owen. He was responsible for significant reform of the Wireless Institute of Australia, was well known across the A-C-M-A and had worked closely with many staff on a range of issues, including several meetings and discussions in recent weeks.

The release ends by stating that the Australian Communications and Media Authority extends its condolences to the amateur community that Michael so tirelessly and effectively represented, as well as to his friends and family. (ACMA)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the N0DRC repeater serving Trinidad, Colorado.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: NTIA ASKS FOR COMMENT ON CREATION OF FIRSTNET

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration, better known by the acronym NTIA has issued a notice of inquiry. This, seeking comment on how it should set up a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network that it calls FirstNet. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

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By way of background, this past February Congress enacted The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. One of its provisions was to create a nationwide interoperable broadband network that will help police, firefighters, emergency medical service professionals and other public safety officials to keep in contact with one another during extreme emergency or disaster situations.

The law's governing framework for the deployment and operation of this network, which is to be based on a single, national network architecture, is the new "First Responder Network Authority" or FirstNet. This is an independent authority within NTIA.

FirstNet will hold the spectrum license for the network. It will also be charged with taking all actions necessary to build, deploy, and operate the network. This, in consultation with Federal, State, tribal and local public safety entities, and other key stakeholders.

The NTIA has given the public until November 1st to comment on the conceptual architecture of such a network as outlined at the first FirstNet board of directors meeting that was held on September 25th. It also is seeking input on a business plan and on developing applications for public safety users.

Comments to the NTIA on this proposed first responder system can be e-mailed to firstnetnoi (at) ntia (dot) doc (dot) gov.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

More about the proposed FirstNet system is on line at www.ntia.doc.gov/category/public-safety. (NTIA, B&C)

**

COMMUNICATIONS HAPPENINGS: NAB PUTS OUT CALL FOR NAB 2013 PAPERS

The 2013 National Association of Broadcasters convention is accepting technical paper or session proposals until October 19th. This for presentation at its gathering slated for next April 6th to the 11th at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Submissions must relate to the creation and distribution of media and filmed entertainment. Conferences scheduled so far include Broadcast Engineering, Broadcast Management, Cloud Computing, Creative Master Series, Disruptive Media and Military and a Government Summit.

If you have a presentation that you feel might qualify, take your web browser to tinyurl.com/nab-presentations-2013 and read the page titled Speaking Opportunities. (NAB)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: AA7BQ ANNOUNCES SERVER UPGRADES AT QRZ.COM

Some improvements at QRZ.com. Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, reports that he has added an additional server to the QRZ system and moved a few things around to improve performance for all users. Among the changes are that all servers have been upgraded to the latest Ubuntu Linux Edition 12.04. Also, various functions have been interchanged between the various cloud servers that host QRZ.com at Amazon Web Services.

AA7BQ says that so far the performance looks really great on all parts of the system. He notes that the callsign server, which was routinely at 90% busy now loafs along at around 50%.

You can read about all the changes made by taking your web browser to tinyurl.com/qrz-improved-service. (QRZ.com)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ARRL INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations are open for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award. The award is presented to an amateur or group of amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through amateur radio. Full details on the nomination process can be found at www.arrl.org/international-humanitarian-award. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: SUNITA WILLIAMS KD5PLB IS NEW COMMANDER OF THE ISS

Turning to names in the news. NASA astronaut Sunita Williams, KD5PLB, who holds the record for the longest spaceflight by a woman, is the new Commander of the International Space Station. Williams took over the leadership role on Saturday September 15th becoming only the second female commander in the orbiting lab's 14-year history.

Sunita Williams is a captain in the U.S. Navy and flying on her second long-duration space mission. She first launched into space in 2007 and spent 195 consecutive day's on-orbit and setting a record for the longest single spaceflight by a female astronaut.

Williams launched to the station in July. She will command its Expedition 33 crew before returning to Earth in November. (NASA)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: K5ZD APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF CQ WORLD WIDE DX CONTEST

CQ Contest Hall of Fame member and WPX Contest Director Randy Thompson, K5ZD, has been named Director of the CQ World Wide DX Contest, effective immediately. Thompson succeeds Bob Cox, K3EST, who retired in September after 35 years at the helm of the world's most popular amateur radio contest.

Thompson, 53, has been a ham since age 13. He is an accomplished contester, having multiple wins in the CQ World Wide DX Contest and the

CQ WPX Contest, among others. He has also competed in four World Radiosport Team Championships. In addition, Randy is a past editor of the "National Contest Journal" and a co-founder of the eHam.net website. He is a longtime member of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club and an instructor at K3LR's Contest University.

Thompson has been Director of the CQ WPX Contest since 2008 and his appointment to the directorship of the CQ World Wide DX Contest creates a vacancy for director of the CQ WPX Contests. Anyone interested in taking on the challenge of leading a major contest should contact Thompson by e-mail to k5zd (at) cqwpx (dot) com. (CQ)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: HAM OWNED INTERNET ONLY RADIO STATION TO HOLD RADIOTHON TO COMBAT BREST CANCER

A ham that operates an on-line only radio station will be holding a three-day radiothon later this month. This, to raise awareness of, and funding to combat of Brest Cancer.

According to Bill Bergadano, KA2EMZ, of Radio Scooter International, the event will be held on October 19, 20 and 21 and will honor Jeri James who passed away from the disease last December. Bergadano says that James father was a ham radio operator.

More about this very special humanitarian event is on-line at radioscooterinternational.net/id130.html. (KA2EMZ)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: LA GRANGE GA. 6 METER NET CELEBRATES 1ST BIRTHDAY

A word of congratulations to the LaGrange, Georgia, 6 meter Buzzard Net that celebrated its first anniversary session on Monday, October 1st. According to Bob Yates, W4GCB, this is an informal net, created one year ago with the goal of promoting activity on 6 meters in the LaGrange area.

LaGrange, Georgia, is located 60 miles southwest of Atlanta near the southern boundary between Grid Squares EM72 and EM73. The net control is Ed Ekkebus, KE4EE, with assistance from Rob Momon, N4VPI. The net meets every Monday evening on 50.155 Mhz at 00:30 UTC.

W4GCB says that during its first 12 months of operation the net has garnered close to 1,500 check in's, with a handful coming from E-skip contacts. (W4GCBL)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY TO THE HUNTSVILLE ARC

And congratulations also to the Huntsville Alabama Amateur Radio Club on its 50th Anniversary.

The first Huntsville Amateur Radio Club was organized on October 6, 1947, with Bill Neal, W4FZD, as the first President. The constitution was approved March 22, 1948. There were twenty-two members of this initial organization but due to a lack of interest, the club was disbanded in the spring of 1949.

The second Huntsville Amateur Radio Club also known as HARC was organized April 18, 1952, at the WFUN Studio. John Garrison, W4FOG, elected as the first President.

The constitution and by-laws were adopted June 20, 1952. 16 members were on the first club roster and the club participated in its first Field Day event on June 21 and 22, 1952. HARC became affiliated with the American Radio Relay League on September 26, 1952, and remains so to this day.

The first club call, K4DTV, was obtained in July of 1954. The club's current callsign K4BFT, in honor of Hammond Carpenter, K4BFT was voted in by the club members on April 3, 1964. More about the history of the Huntsville group is on-line at harc.net. (HARC)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: FATHER AND SON AWARDED DOCTORATES IN ENGINEERING

It is not often that a father and son obtain doctorates in engineering during the same week. But it has happened and the latest involves two hams in South Africa. Amateur Radio Newsline's Hewather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, reports:

--

Dr. Gary Immelman. ZS6YI, and his son Dr. Quintin Immelman, ZS6IY, both acquired doctorates in engineering during the same week, but from different universities. Gary Immelman obtained a Doctorite is Technologiae Engineering and Technology from the Vaal University of Technology. Quintin acquired his Ph.D. in Mechanical-Nuclear Engineering from South Africas North West University. The two graduation ceremonies were not originally planned to fall within the same time frame, so chance made it at remarkable week to remember. It should be noted that last year at this time ZS6YI was recovering from gunshot wounds that he suffered as a result of a brutal attack at his home on July 25 of 2011. Late word is that hes almost fully back to good health but still has pain in his right arm and abdomen. That

said, the incident has not slowed him down in any way. For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Heather Butera-Howell, KB3TZD, near Berwick Pennsylvania.

--

Our congratulations to both ZS6YI and ZS6IY and their achievements. (SARL)

**

WORLDBEAT: SOUTH AFRICA REVITALIZES HAMNET DOMAIN

South Africa's Hamnet website was reactivated on October 1st. Hamnet is a voluntary group of radio amateurs who, like ARES in the United States, volunteer their communication skills to assist others during and after disasters.

Their Hamnet domain has been dormant for many years. Now thanks to the efforts of Dawie Conradie, ZR6DHC, an initial site has been put together and will grow with time.

The revitalized Hamnet website is described as filling the gap between the South African Radio League website and the well established Hamnet Facebook page.

All links have been incorporated in the website, including some that are international. Its located in cyberspace at www.hamnet.co.za, (SARL)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: UKCUBE TO LAUNCH IN MARCH 2013

Turning to ham radio space related news, word that UKube-1, the United Kingdom Space Agency's first CubeSat mission, has booked its journey into space on board a Russian Soyuz-2 rocket. The launch from Kazakhstan is expected to take place sometime in March of 2013. The tiny satellite carries an amateur radio 435 to 145 MHz linear transponder built by members of AMSAT-UK. (AMSAT UK)

**

RADIO NEAR SPACE: HIGHEST AND FASTEST EVER SKY DIVE ATTEMPT OCTOBER 8

A high altitude sky-diver plans to leap from nearly 23 miles above the Earth on October 8th. This, in a high sped plunge that, if successful, will be the world's highest ever skydive. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Damron, N8TMW, has the details:

--

If all goes according to plan, a helium-filled balloon will lift off from Roswell, New Mexico on that date carrying Felix Baumgartner to an altitude of 120,000 feet in a custom built capsule that will keep him

in radio contact with the personnel at his mission control center on the ground. Once at altitude, Baumgartner will step out of the capsule and jump back toward Earth in his attempt to break a skydiving record that has stood for 52 years.

The current record for world's highest skydive stands at 102,800 feet. It was set in 1960 by U.S. Air Force Captain Joe Kittinger, who serves as an adviser for Baumgartner's mission. If Baumgartner succeeds, he will break not only that mark but also the sound barrier, becoming the first skydiver ever to fall at supersonic speeds. During a July 25th jump, Baumgartner's top freefall speed was 540 mph which is about as fast as a commercial airliner flies.

According to Baumgartner's launch team, this is more than a simple attempt at setting a world's record. If successful it will prove the viability of the next generation of space suits that can be worn by astronauts and cosmonauts working in the near space environment.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, reporting.

--

A video of July 25th practice jump is on-line at tinyurl.com/high-jump-one. The mission's own website is at www.redbullstratos.com. (Published news reports)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: ISS SPACE DEBRIS AVOIDANCE MANUVER CALLED OFF

Plans to move the International Space Station to a slightly different orbit were called off on Thursday, September 27th. This after controllers determined that two pieces of orbital debris would not pose a collision risk.

According to NASA, Mission controllers had been monitoring debris from an old Russian Cosmos satellite and a fragment from an Indian rocket. Some scientists had said there was a chance that the debris could come close enough to require an adjustment in the station's orbit.

But NASA said additional tracking of the debris resulted in a high degree of confidence that neither object would pose any possibility of a collision with the ISS. As a result, Mission Control in Houston canceled the debris avoidance maneuver with concurrence of Russian flight controllers.

Space debris moves at a high orbital velocity rate and has the ability to cause damage to various operational on-orbit birds including the ISS. As such, flight engineers and spacecraft controllers try to give such space junk a wide berth whenever something might come close.

(NASA)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING JAPANS HEALTH AND WELFARE FESTIVAL

On the air listen out for special event station 8J7NPMG. It will be operational through October 16th from Miyagi prefecture on Honshu Island to celebrate the 25th All Japan Health and Welfare Festival. QSL only via bureau. (DXNL)

**

ON THE AIR: NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK SPECIAL EVENT

Also, the National Wildlife Refuge Special Event is slated for October 14th to the 20th and ham radio will again be helping to mark the occasion. The goal is to combine the communication skills of amateur radio operators with their enjoyment of the outdoors as a way to help others learn about the National Wildlife Refuge System. Only authorized, safe, responsible access to refuges are sanctioned by this event. For more information please contact the events coordinator at info (at) nwrweek-radio (dot) info. (Arizona ARRL Newsletter)

**

BREAK 3

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

DX

In DX, OD5RW is on the air from Lebanon operating on 80 meters through 70 centimeters using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and other digital modes. He also has D-Star capability on VHF and UHF. QSL via K8NA.

F6EXV and DJ8NK will be active from Niger through October 15th as 5U6E and 5U8NK respectively. Operation will be on the High Frequency bands though modes have not been announced. QSL 5U6E via F6EXV and 5U8NK via DJ8NK.

F6AML will be active from Mayotte Island through October 19th as T-Oh-2-M. He will be operational on 80 through 10 meter CW and SSB. QSL via home call.

N6XT and N7CQQ currently active portable KH8 from American Samoa. They are reported to be operational on all of the High Frequency bands using various modes. QSL via home calls

DJ7RJ will be on the air from Reunion Island signing stroke FR until October 21st. He plans to be active on all bands 10 to 160 meters using CW and SSB. QSL as directed on the air.

LZ1CNN has received his Afghan callsign and plans to be active as T6LG until next February. He'll be on all bands, CW and SSB. QSL via L-Zed-1-Zed-F and all QSO's will be uploaded to Logbook of The World.

Lastly, and down the DX road a bit word that K2TTT will be operational as C6ATT from New Providence Island between June 8th to the 15th, 2013. Activity will be on 40 through 10 meters. QSL via K2TTT.

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: JOTA 2012 - OCTOBER 20-21

And finally this week, the biggest event of the scouting season involving ham radio is drawing near. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramovich, NT3V, is here with the details:

--

It's the largest Scouting event in the world. Last year, it drew more than 750,000 Scouts in 150 countries to the ham radio frequencies manned by 6,000 amateur radio operators.

It's the 55th annual Jamboree on the Air which which runs the weekend of Oct. 20-21. Jim Wilson, K5ND, national Jamboree on the Air organizer for the United States as well as chairman of the national Radio Scouting committee, says it's a chance for amateur radio to introduce young men and women to the adventure and fun of the hobby...

"It's not a contest, it's a conversation," Wilson says. "And, there's no prizes handed out for the number of contacts that you make. Instead, it's about talking with Scouts, and, ideally, Scouts talking with other Scouts - either across town, across the state, across the nation, or across the world."

Wilson says in the United States, many Scout councils will be conducting camporees on JOTA weekend and amateurs will set up stations and put the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers on the air.

He says the neatest thrill for operators taking part in the event is facilitating a Scout working a DX contact, and ideally talking with a Scout overseas...

"The real excitement is seeing a Scout's eyes light up as they realize that they're communicating over such a long distance and how all this gear comes into play," says Wilson.

Wilson says he's already spoken with a few JOTA station organizers who are planning something special for the Scouts....

"They like to have the Scouts build their own antenna, test the antenna to see what the Standing Wave Ratio is and all that sort of stuff and then put it on the air and make a contact," Wilson says. "So, it's a simple dipole, a very easy way for them to do hands on and then watch as the result of their work makes a contact. It can be a very exciting experience for that Scout."

Wilson says there will be lots of activity on the air that weekend, including a scheduled contact from the BSA's Scouting museum in Texas with the International Space Station.

But he cautions amateurs need to make sure they brush up on those third-party agreements to ensure everyone stays legal.

Wilson says there's another very important reason to roll out the welcome mat for the Scouts... "Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and Venturers that will be participating in Jamboree on the Air are the same people that are going to be writing the regulations for your antennas at your neighborhood level, at the city level, at the state level, at the federal level," Wilson says. "And now is a good time to reach out to them to say amateur radio has real value, it's making a difference in the world. This is the time to reach them.

"And JOTA is a great way to do that not only to grow the ranks of amateur radio, but to just introduce kids who may never participate in amateur radio so that they understand that it's magic, it's fun, and it contributes to our communities in a very positive way."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

More information on JOTA 2012 is on-line at www.scouting.org/jota.aspx. The scouts say that they hope to make contact with you on the air.

(NT3V)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, the South African Radio League, TWiT-TV and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 from Vero Beach, Florida, and we thank you for listening.

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215. The ARRL Letter for October 11, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-11 20:44:00 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121011172613.5DEBF29C917@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 384
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

October 11, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- + FCC News: FCC Agrees with ARRL on Emission Designators, TDMA
- + On the Air: Scouts and Scouters Take to the Airwaves for the 55th
Jamboree on the Air
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- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC SEEKS TO CHANGE AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING RULES

On October 2, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WT
Docket No. 12-121 that seeks to change the Amateur Radio licensing
rules, especially as they concern former licensees. Acting upon an
April 2011 Petition for Rulemaking filed by the Anchorage VEC to give
permanent credit to radio amateurs for examination elements they have
successfully passed, the FCC proposes to revise Section 97.505 to
require that Volunteer Examiners (VEs) give examination credit to an
applicant who can demonstrate that he or she formerly held a particular
class of license. In addition, the Commission seeks to shorten the
grace period during which an expired amateur license may be renewed and
to reduce the number of VEs needed to administer an amateur license
examination. Read more here
```

<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-change-amateur-radio-licensing-rules-allow-additional-emission-types>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC AGREES WITH ARRL ON EMISSION DESIGNATORS, TDMA

Part of WT Docket No. 12-121 (see above) included a response to a March 2011 Petition for Rulemaking filed by the ARRL. Through the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the FCC is seeking to amend the Amateur Service rules to allow amateur stations to transmit additional emission types in order to permit Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) in the Amateur Service; however, it denied the League's request for a blanket waiver pending the resolution of the rulemaking proceeding. The FCC pointed out that one of the purposes of the Amateur Service is to contribute to the advancement of the radio art: "Allowing amateur stations to use communication technologies that are used in other radio services, such as TDMA technologies, allows Amateur Service licensees to experiment with and improve these technologies and, therefore, is consistent with the basis and purpose of the Amateur Service. For this reason, we agree with the ARRL that the current rules allowing the use of multiple time-slot TDMA repeaters, but not permitting amateur stations to transmit single-slot TDMA emissions, may be unnecessarily impeding Amateur Radio operators in advancing the radio art." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-change-amateur-radio-licensing-rules-allow-additional-emission-types>.

==> + ON THE AIR: SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS TAKE TO THE AIRWAVES FOR THE 55TH JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

Each year, more than 500,000 Scouts in more than 100 countries take to the airwaves on the third full weekend in October -- and this year on October 20-21, it will be no different. The Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is an annual Scouting and Amateur Radio event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau of the World Organization of the Scout Movement where Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from all over the world speak to each other via Amateur Radio. Since 1958 -- when the first Jamboree on the Air was held -- millions of Scouts have met through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pal relationships and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/scouts-and-scouters-take-to-the-airwaves-for-the-55th-jamboree-on-the-air>.

==> THE ARRL OFFERS FIVE NEW BOOKS FOR FALL

The ARRL has just released five new books that you are going to want to have in your shack. This fall, two favorites have been re-released and are chock-full of new information: hardcover and softcover editions of The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications (90th edition), The ARRL Operating Manual (10th edition). In addition, the ARRL is proud to offer three new titles: The Amateur Radio Public Service Handbook, The Care and Feeding of Transmission Lines by QST Technical Editor Joel

Hallas, W1ZR, and Antenna Modeling for Beginners by H. Ward Silver, N0AX. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-arrl-offers-five-new-books-for-fall>.

==> + IARU NEWS: IARU REGION 2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN CURACAO

The IARU Region 2 Executive Committee met in Curacao September 29-30. Led by Region 2 President Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, the meeting was attended by Region 2 Officers and Area Directors; Area B Director and ARRL International Affairs Vice President Jay Bellows, K0QB, represented the United States. IARU Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD, represented the IARU and IARU Region 1 President Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, represented IARU Region 1. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/iaru-region-2-executive-committee-meets-in-curacao> .

==> + ARRL INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations are open for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award. This award is conferred upon an amateur or amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established the annual prize to recognize those radio amateurs who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster. As one of the few telecommunication services that allow people throughout the world from all walks of life to meet and talk with each other, Amateur Radio spreads goodwill across political boundaries. The ARRL International Humanitarian Award recognizes the Amateur Radio Service's unique role in international communication and the assistance amateurs regularly provide to people in need. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-invites-nominations-for-2012-international-humanitarian-award>.

==> + AT THE WORKBENCH: ATTENTION KIT BUILDERS -- THE ARRL WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The ARRL wants to hear from kit builders about simple, useful, educational and exciting kits. These kits should have a high probability for success and would serve as stepping stones for more advanced projects. We are looking all sorts of kits, but RF detector kits that work in the 380 MHz-2.5 GHz range are of special interest. The kits should also have a "Wow, I built this and it works!" factor. If you know of such a kit, please let us know by filling out a simple form here <http://www.arrl.org/technology> by October 31.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: There was another decline in sunspot activity this week, although activity may be making a slow recovery based on recent activity over the past few days and projected solar flux values. The average daily sunspot numbers dropped from 73 to 51.7, a difference of 21.3 points. But the past two days saw sunspot numbers

(63 and 71) higher than the average -- and climbing. The average of daily solar flux was off 23.8 points to 104.9, and like the sunspot figures, the past two days saw solar flux values (106.2 and 112) higher than the average for the week. The predicted solar flux from the Wednesday, October 10 NOAA/USAF forecast is 115 on October 11-13, 120 on October 14-15, 115 on October 16-18, then 145, 150 and 145 on October 19-21, 140 on October 22-23, and 135 on October 24-27. We then see solar flux dip below 100 on November 4-8 and peak at 150 again on November 16. The predicted planetary A index for October 11-17 is 10, 5, 5, 12, 12, 10 and 8, and then 5 on October 18-November 3, and then rising to 18, 20, 12 and back down to 8 on November 4-7. We saw the most geomagnetic activity on October 8-9 showed the most, with the planetary A index at 35 and 42, the mid-latitude A index at 21 and 32 and the high latitude college A index at 66 and 54; this activity was triggered by a coronal mass ejection on October 8. The predicted rise in planetary A index to 12 on October 14-15 is due to a solar wind spewing from a coronal hole, which should rotate into a geo-effective position during that time. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, October 12. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: MFJ'S MARTIN F. JUE, K5FLU, HONORED AT ARRL DAY IN THE PARK

To celebrate 40 years in the Amateur Radio business, MFJ Enterprises <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/> hosted ARRL Day in the Park <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/dayinpark.php> in Starkville, Mississippi, October 5-6. Martin F. Jue, K5FLU, started MFJ in October 1972 in a Starkville hotel room with one product: a CW filter kit that sold for less than $10. Today, MFJ consists of six different ham radio companies that manufacture more than 2000 products. ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, and ARRL Mississippi Section Manager Malcolm Keown, W5XX, represented the League at MFJ's ARRL Day in the Park. The two-day event brought 500 people to Starkville and featured tours of the MFJ facilities (including the factory and metal shop), tailgating, forums, demonstrations and lunch. Kramer presented Jue with the ARRL Special Achievement Award, honoring Jue and MFJ for their four decades of service, as well as the company's innovative products, which have contributed to the enjoyment and effectiveness of Amateur Radio all around the world. Tom Medlin, W5KUB, was at the event and produced a video of the speeches and presentations, which can be viewed here <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/25962423>.

==> ARRL HQ SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR QST TECHNICAL EDITOR

The League is currently looking to fill the position of QST Technical Editor at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. Connecticut residency or the ability to relocate to Connecticut is required. The QST Technical Editor will provide leadership to the technical Amateur Radio community by developing and promulgating a vision of the state of the Amateur

Radio art through the pages of QST.

Qualifications:

- Broad knowledge of and experience with Amateur Radio and electronics.
- Broad knowledge of and experience with the design and construction of Amateur Radio equipment, antennas and accessories.
- Broad knowledge of and experience with Amateur Radio software.
- A bachelor or graduate college degree, preferably in a technical field. Exceptional related work history can be substituted for a degree.
- A minimum of three years of writing or editing experience.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively and productively with a variety of people.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office, especially Word and Excel.
- An Amateur Extra class license.

Click here <http://www.arrl.org/employment-opportunities> for more information and an application. To apply, please send your cover letter and resume via e-mail <mlevesque@arrl.org?subject=Technical20Position>, or complete the application, print it out and mail it with your resume and cover letter to Monique Levesque, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. You can also fax your application, cover letter and resume to 860-594-0298. Please include your salary history and salary requirements. The ARRL is an equal opportunity employer.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- October 12 -- NCCC Sprint
- October 13 -- EU Autumn Sprint (CW); FISTS Fall Sprint
- October 13-14 -- Arizona QSO Party; Pennsylvania QSO Party; Makrothen RTTY Contest; Oceania DX Contest (CW); QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party; Scandinavian Activity Contest (SSB)
- October 14 -- North American Sprint (RTTY); SKCC Weekend Sprintathon

Next week:

- October 15-19 -- ARRL School Club Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>
- October 19 -- NCCC Sprint, MCG Autumn Sprint
- October 20 -- Iowa QSO Party; Feld Hell Sprint
- October 20-21 -- New York QSO Party; 10-10 International Fall Contest (CW); Stew Perry Topband Challenge; JARTS WW RTTY Contest; Worked All Germany Contest; Araucaria VHF Contest; 10-10 International Fall Contest (CW); W/VE Islands QSO Party
- October 21 -- Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint (CW); UBA ON Contest (2 meters)
- October 21-22 -- Illinois QSO Party
- October 22 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- October 24 -- SKCC Sprint
- October 24-25 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- October 12-14 -- ARRL National Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arrl-national-convention-pacificon-2012>, Santa Clara, California
- October 13 -- ARRL Iowa State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-state-convention-hamboree-2012>, Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
- October 13-14 -- ARRL Florida State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/florida-state-convention-melbourne-hamfest-1>, Melbourne, Florida
- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest-computer-expo-1>, Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfest-computer-show'>, Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery, Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-computer-expo-1>, Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-bay-hamfest-2>, Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-1>, Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>, Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfest>, Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo, Puerto Rico

- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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216. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1835 - October 12 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-12 09:00:14 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121012090003.21F1833C53@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 385
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1835 - October 12 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1835 with a release date of October 12 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking aimed at changing the Amateur Radio licensing rules and lots more; the R-S-G-B replies to UK telecommunications regulator Ofcom on the future of 143 to 156 MHz; hams in Sweden effectively loose access to the 2300 MHz band and a ham radio operators success in gaining approval for a 65 foot tower leaves neighbors very unhappy. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1835 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: FCC PROPOSES MULTIPLE CHANGES INN THE PART 97 AMATEUR SERVICE RULES

The FCC has put forth a series of suggested Part 97 rules changes which when taken as a whole literally redefine many aspects of the United States Amateur Radio Service. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, takes a look at what the regulatory agency sees in ham radio's future:

--

It's not a done deal by any stretch, but the FCC has put a few proposals out there for public comment and it's interested in hearing from you.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making or NPRM can be divided into a few basic categories - exam credit for expired licenses and grace periods for expired licenses, a change in the number of volunteer examiners needed for a valid testing session, and emissions and experimentation by amateurs.

Rich Moseson, W2VU, is editor of CQ Magazine, and Amateur Radio Newsline called upon him for his take on the proposals.

Let's begin with one that could have the biggest impact, the proposal to give examination credits for anyone who held a license that expired, thereby eliminating the need for re-testing for someone who has an expired license.

Moseson says he wholeheartedly endorses the idea of being able to recover a license a ham once held. He says right now, the current FCC rules are scattered on this....

"If you held a particular type of license at a particular time then there's no limit on being able to get it back without re-testing," Moseson explains. "But if you held a higher class license or a lower class license or the same license at a different time and it's expired and beyond the grace period, then you can't get it back without re-testing.

"So, the current rules make no sense."

Moseson says he's uncertain how many hams are out there who let their licenses lapse years ago, but he suggests the FCC recognizes they should be allowed to get back in without putting an undue burden on them.

Controversial? Maybe, for some. But Moseson says he believes it's a win-win for the hobby...

"I don't think that we've been greatly damaged from having the ability to re-gain licenses once held without additional testing on the license classes that are permitted," Moseson says. "And, I don't think there will be any great hazard to the hobby. In fact, I think there will be benefit to the hobby of letting people whose licenses have expired return if their interest has returned as well."

If that doesn't quite sit well with you, Moseson suggests considering this:

"There's really very little difference between this and what goes on if you maintain your license," Moseson says. "There are no activity requirements. So, as long as you renew your license every 10 years now, you can be licensed continually without taking a test even if you haven't been on the air in 30 years.

"And, if you want to come back on the air - as long as you've maintained your license - then you just turn on the radio. Well, if you've let your license lapse, there's really not much difference. "So, if you've passed the test for a license, if you've held that license before, and you want to get back into ham radio, let's welcome you back with open arms and not make you have to take your test again when other people don't have to take that test again."

Now, on to the proposal to have only two volunteer examiners at a testing session.

Moseson says he feels a little uncomfortable with that idea, although the FCC suggests it will open up more exam opportunities and make it easier for people to get a ham license....

"I think that a minimum of three people is important at first glance," Moseson says. "I would be open to looking at the comments from other people. But from my personal experience, I think it's good to have a

minimum of three people because it just reduces the possibility of any kind of shenanigans to a much lower level.

"And, that was the reason for putting in the three-examiner requirement to begin with and I think that's still valid."

There's also the idea of remote testing sessions - that is using the technology for VEs to observe an exam session. The FCC's rationale is colleges and businesses use teleconferencing and maybe it's time to explore that option. Moseson says timing might be right...

"Yes, the technology needs to be acknowledged," Moseson say. "I don't think we should necessarily just jump right into it. I would suggest a pilot program first to see how well it works out and then take it from there."

Moseson says he's encouraged by the proposal looking at the modes for amateur radio transmissions. He says there are too many restrictions and limitations on hams which can stifle rather than encourage experimentation.

He says the FCC is wise to look at the issue, especially considering the area of TDMA or Time Division Multiple Access technology for amateur radio.

"I think that the more that we can do with them as hams, in addition to what the commercial world is doing, the better off we'll all be because that competition is a fact of life," Moseson says. "You know, you look at our microwave bands which are really where a lot of the future is going to be - 2.4 Ghz, 5.8 Ghz - these bands are already shared.

"And if we can make better use of that sharing so that we can do what we want to do without bothering the other people and without having them bother us then that's great we can all get by very well."

Moseson says he still hasn't had a chance to go through the entire NPRM. He intends to study it and encourages hams to take the initiative and digest it before commenting...

"Well, I would encourage people to download the NPRM from the FCC website and read the whole thing, particularly before sending in comments to the FCC on it," Moseson says. "I've seen too many people in other situations send in comments on an NPRM based on a summary and they haven't read the whole thing and they come off looking uninformed."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V in Philadelphia.

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WT Docket No. 12-121 is expected to draw a lot of discussion in ham radio circles and we will have more on it in upcoming Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (FCC)

**

RESTRUCTURING: RSGB, BATC AND AMSAT-UK REPLY TO OFCOM ON HF SPECTRUM

Meantime, across the Atlantic, the Radio Society of Great Britain in concert with the British Amateur Radio Club and AMSAT-UK, has submitted a response to telecommunications regulastor Ofcom's Consultation or Notice of Inquiry on the future use of VHF spectrum from 143 to 156 MHz. This being the bandspace that was formally used by the British Home Office.

According to the R-S-G-B, the unique nature of this spectrum, and the fact that it surrounds the existing 2 meter amateur radio band, suggested a creative response. One the R-S-G-B stated that would need to be competitive with the likely responses from Business Radio users. No details of the actual text of the response are known as we go to air.

(RSGB)

**

RESTRUCTURING: SWEDEN HAM COMMUNITY LOOSES 2300 MHZ BAND

Swedish radio amateurs have basically lost the 2300 MHz band although they have gained some spectrum at 1.8 MHz.

The Swedish Amateur Radio Society, the S-S-A, reports the loss of the 2300 MHz band with effect from October 1st. And while 2400 to 2450 MHz is still allocated for amateur radio operation the power there is limited to just 100 milliwatts at the antenna.

However there is good news down lower in frequency. Sweden used to have "Top Band" allocations of 1810 to 1850 kHz at max 1 kW and 1930 to 2000 kHz with a maximum of 10 Watts out. As of October 1st this changed to 1810 to 1850 kHz at 1 kW and 1850 to 2000 kHz with a maximum of 10 watts. Power output is measured at the antenna.

(SSA)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FOUR CUBESATS DEPLOYED FROM ISS

Radio amateurs around the world have been listening for signals from the four new amateur radio CubeSats that were deployed from the International Space Station on Thursday, October 4th.

FITSat-1 has a CW beacon on 437.250MHz, 1200 bps AX.25 packet radio on 437.445MHz and a high-speed data transmitter on 5840.0MHz.

F-1 has the callsign is XV1VN and the communications subsystem is built around two Yaesu VX-3R amateur radio handheld transceivers. One will transmit 1200 bps packet radio every 30 seconds on 145.980MHz while in darkness. The other will operate only in sunlight sending a 20 second FM transmission of a CW tone on 437.485MHz followed by a 60 second gap.

TechEdSat carries a 1200 bps packet radio transmitter on 437.465MHz.

WE-WISH transmits CW and 1200 bps packet radio on 437.505MHz. Due to the effects of Doppler shift the 70cm downlink frequencies will vary by +/- 10 kHz during an 8 minute pass.

Each could have a life-time of 4 or 5 months before they burn-up on reentry into the Earth's atmosphere.

(AMSAT, GB2RS)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W-Zero-B-Zed-N repeater of the Newton Amateur Radio Club serving Newton, Kansas.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC REFUSES TO RECONSIDER $10000 NAL

The operator of an unlicensed radio station in Florida will have to pay a $10,000 fine. This after the FCC turns down his petition for reconsideration where he failed to prove he could not afford to pay. We have more in this report:

--

The FCC has refused to reconsider a $10,000 fine issued to Neal Davis of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. In its September 28th release the regulatory agency stated that Davis appeal of the forfeiture order did not meet the criteria set out by the agency in regard to providing proof that such a fine would prove to be a financial hardship.

In his Petition, Davis did not deny that he operated an unlicensed radio station and therefore violated Section 301 of the Communications Act. Rather, he urged the cancellation of the forfeiture based on an inability to pay claim. Specifically he asserted that he is currently unemployed and has no income but Davis did not provide any financial or other form of documentation to corroborate his asserted financial status.

In the absence of any supporting financial or other reliable documentation, the FCC says it has no basis by which to evaluate Davis's inability to pay claim and are constrained by the limited record before it. As such the FCC has denied the Petition and affirmed the Forfeiture Order.

--

Davis was given the customary 30 days to pay the fine. If he fails to do so the matter could be turned over to the Department of Justice for further action. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: WIRELESS CAMERA IN PALM TREE INTERFERES WITH FAA RADAR

The FCC has issued a Notice of Violation to the Redondo Beach Marina in Redondo Beach, California. This, for operating an unlicensed wireless video surveillance camera that was found to be causing interference to an FAA Radar system.

After receiving a complaint from the Federal Aviation Administration concerning interference to their 1240 to 1300 MHz band radar in San Pedro, California the Los Angeles FCC Office dispatched agents to investigate the matter. The agents used direction finding to locate a radio signal on 1282 MHz emanating from a wireless camera mounted on a Palm tree in the parking lot of Redondo Beach Marina. When AC power to the camera was disconnected, the interference ceased.

Based on this finding, a cease and desist notice was issued telling the Marina that use of the wireless camera must stop immediately. And in its September 20th letter to the Redondo Beach Marina it was warned that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a valid radio station authorization constitutes a violation of the Federal laws and could subject the operator of this illegal operation to severe penalties. (FCC)

**

HELPING YOUTH: AMATEUR RADIO SUPPLIES ANNOUNCES YOUTH GIVEAWAY

Amateur Radio Supplies of Haverhill, Massachusetts, has announced a new biannual giveaway. This to promote youth in amateur radio DXing and contesting.

Beginning January 1st of 2013, the company says that it will give a complete high frequency station to the selected applicant. The gear to be presented will include Alinco DX-SR8T/E 160 through 6 meter all mode transceiver with a 30 amp power supply, an L-D-G antenna tuner, a choice of an all band G5RV or HyGain DX-77A Vertical plus just about all the accessories to put it all on the air.

Applicants from any country under the age of 21 are invited to provide brief answers to the following three questions. These are how often are you able to operate on the HF bands? Where do you typically operate from and how do you intend to use the equipment provided in the give-away.

Send your answers along with your name, callsign, and license class using the form at www.amateurradiosupplies.com/youth-s/222.htm. Nominations will also be accepted.

For more information please e-mail Randy Rowe at randy (at) amateurradiosupplies (dot) com. Amateur Radio Supplies is a new company that provides a full line of gear, including antennas, transceivers, coax, antenna wires and countless station accessories.

(Michelle Garrett - Project Manager - Amateur Radio Supplies)

**

SWL NEWS: MORE TV WATCHERS OPTING OR FREE OVER THE AIR PROGRMMING

As cable bills rise and the United States economy remains weak, more Americans are watching television using good old fashioned antennas.

According to the research firm GfK Media, nearly 18 percent of all US households with television sets are watching broadcasts delivered for free over the air. This is up from 15 percent of homes last year according to research the firm. Translated into numbers, that means 20.7 million homes, or roughly 54 million consumers, now get channels over the air instead of paying a monthly cable or satellite bill.

According to the study, 6 percent of TV households, or 6.9 million homes, canceled their cable service at some point in the past and now rely on free broadcasts. GfK's report also found that 16 percent of households downgraded TV service in the business year through March, while only 11 percent of TV households said they had increased service.

The report also found that people using Web-connected TV increased to 34 million households, or 29 percent. That's almost double the previous year's 16 percent. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/9z4ffj5

(Published News Reports)

**

SWL NEWS: CANADIAN AM STATIONS LEAVING THE AIR

More AM stations are leaving the medium wave AM broadcast band in Canada than are coming on the air, This is according to the trade publication Radio World that says since 2009, some sixteen Canadian AM broadcasters have gone off the air as several have moved to the FM band and companies closed the least profitable stations.

But in this case more seems better from a profit standpoint. According to the research firm Statistics Canada, the moves have allowed AM operating revenues to grow by 1.1% in 2011, to 311 million Canadian dollars.

A quick search of the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission site shows 727 commercial licensed radio stations, not broken down by service. That compares to 4,754 commercial licensed AM and 6,568 FM broadcast entities in the United States according to FCC figures for the most recent quarter. (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEW: CHANGES AT CQ AVERTISING DEPARMENT

Some names in the news. CQ Communications has announced the appointments of Charlie Payne, ex- WN2AKC, and Jon Kummer, WA2OJK, to the company's advertising department. Payne and Kummer succeed Chip Margelli, K7JA, who has reportedly resigned to pursue other opportunities in the amateur radio industry.

According to a press release from CQ, the company's parting with K7JA was completely amicable, and Margelli still is ironing out details of his next adventure in the amateur radio industry. Meantime, for those in need of contact information, Charlie Payne may be reached by e-mail at Charlie (at) cqcomm (dot) com. Jon Kummer's e-mail is jon (at) cqcomm (dot) com. (CQ)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: PETER LAKE ZL2AZ NAMED IARU R3 CHAIRMAN

Peter Lake, ZL2AZ, of Wellington, New Zealand, has been elected as the Chairman of IARU Region 3. He replaces Michael Owen, VK3KI, who passed away unexpectedly last month. Owen, who was also President of the Wireless Institute of Australia, had served as Region 3 Chairman since 2006. (IARU-R3)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: RADIO AMATEUR FILES SDR PATENT

And Software Defined Radio is coming of age in the world of amateur radio. This with word that Tao Wang, KB3KSR, has filed a patent for a General-purpose software defined radio platform.

The patent disclosure describes Wang's invention as a flexible, compact size, low power consumption, low cost, high performance software defined radio platform. One that can be used in different areas, including industrial applications, amateur radio, and academic research.

In its present form, Wang's unit is a processing platform that packs a complete computer inside a pocket size enclosure. The invention makes use of a graphic user interface and touch screen LCD display for interaction with those who are utilizing it. (Southgate)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAM-JAM 2012 LWRENCEVILLE GA NOVEMBER 10

On the social scene, HamJam 2012 will take place on Saturday, November 10th at the Georgia Gwinnett College Student Center, in Lawrenceville, Georgia. The event is open to all radio amateurs and admission is free. Gerald Youngblood, K5SDR the C-E-O and President of FlexRadio Systems, will speak on the future of amateur radio while Doug Grant, K1DG will do a presentation on Contesting Ethics and the World Radio Team Championships. More information on the web at www.hamjam.info

(SEDXC)

**

HAM HPPENINGS: FREE CQ WW UPDATE WEBINAR WITH K5ZD

The World Wide Radio Operators Foundation will be sponsoring an open Webinar on Sunday, October 21st at 19:00 UTC titled CQ World Wide Update 2012. Hosted by Randy Thompson, K5ZD, the on-line gathering will provide an update on the status of the contest including new rules for 2012, log entry tips, fair play, and various other topics of interest. Questions will be taken following the presentation. Registration for this free event is on-line at tinyurl.com/cq-ww-webinar. (WWROF)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: SID T. MAY ET3SID/AB3OZ/G4CTQ, SK

The changing of the guard in ham radio continues with word of the passing of Sid T. May, who held the callsigns ET3SID, AB3OZ and G4CTQ. May was the chairman of the Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society and credited with setting up the first amateur radio club of Ethiopia in 1993. He had also been teaching amateur radio courses to Ethiopian students for more than 15 years and was also a volunteer examiner who administered both U-K and United States amateur exams in Ethiopia. (Southgate)

**

INTRUDER REPORT: CHINESE OTH RADAR GAIN HRASSING 40 METERS

The IARU Monitoring System newsletter reports that Radio Hargeisa is operating on 7.120 MHz and that Chinese surveillance radar in the amateur radio 40 meter band is now stronger than ever before

According to the report, the pesky Chinese Over the Horizon Radar had left the 40 meter band for few weeks. But now its reported back with a very strong burst system. One that is at least 10 kHz wide and has an almost S9 signal, world-wide. IARU Regions 1 and 3 are reported to be severely affected by it.

More about both of these situations is on-line at tinyurl.com/china-radar-again. (IRUMS)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: DISSOLVABLE BIO-MED ELECTRONICS

Ultra-thin electronics that dissolve inside the body have been devised by scientists in the US and could be used for a range of medical roles.

According to research published in the journal Science the components are made of silicon and magnesium oxide and placed in a protective layer of silk. Once their job has been completed these devices can simply melt away with the speed of melting is controlled by silk.

The technology has already been used to heat a wound to keep it free from infection by bacteria. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/melting-electronics. (BBC)

**

WORLDBEAT: UK AUTO MANUFACTURERS NOT SUPPORTING DIGITAL RADIO BROADCASTING

The United Kingdom's government mandated switchover date for digital radio may need to be extended several years. This following a new survey of car manufacturers that reveals at least half are steering clear of the new entertainment technology.

As part of its Digital Britain vision, the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport named 2015 as the deadline for turning off its ageing but very popular analogue radio network, in favor of one based on digital standards. The move would mean the majority of today's in-car tuners as well as home radio sets would cease to function overnight.

But new findings from Auto Express Magazine suggest the switchover could now be delayed until 2017 or later. This after a survey of 24 mainstream car manufacturers by the publication has revealed that 50 percent do not offer any digital radio units for their model range, even as an optional extra. Also, almost 60 per cent of new vehicles registered this in the U.K. this year came with no option for the installation of a digital radio receiver. (Auto Express, Southgate)

**

WORDBEAT: BELEGIUM HAMS ASSIST IN NEW FREE WIFI SYSTM

The Belgian national society the U-B-A reports on the involvement of radio amateurs in getting free WiFi in the city of Geraardsbergen. The UBA says that O6RY and ON3FDS worked with the city officials to bring about the new WiFi service and in the process generated some valuable public relations for the amateur radio in that nation. More about this story is on-line at tinyurl.com/ham-radio-wifi (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: EQUISAT HAM-SAT TO CARRY OPTICAL BEAON

Students at the Brown University are developing an amateur radio satellite called EQUiSat that will carry an interesting optical beacon. The bird will use a Xenon Flash Tube that should be visible to the unaided eye of observers on Earth. A radio beacon is planned to operate in the 435 to 438 MHz range. Launch is hoped for in the 2015 time frame into an orbit of about 300 kilometers. That should give the satellite a life-time of a couple of months.

(EQUiSat, Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: BUAA-SAT PLANNED FOTR 2014 LAUNCH

BUAA-SAT is a micro-satellite project developed by the students of Beijing University carries an amateur radio 435 and 145 MHz FM voice transponder. Plans call for it to be launched into a 600 by 800 kilometer Sun Synchronous Orbit in late 2014. Its primary missions are to study the application of components used in the onboard electronic system, to demonstrate the coil-able mast deployment mechanism and to carry out imaging using three CMOS cameras. More is on-line at http://sat.buaa.edu.cn/

(AMSAT-UK)

**

ON THE AIR: SAGA INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FESTIVAL

On the air, please listen out for special event callsign 8-J-6-B-A-L to be aired on all bands and modes between through November 5th in celebration of the 2012 Saga International Balloon Fiesta. This is an Asian maximum grade Hot Air Balloon International Festival in Saga City, Japan. More information is on-line at www (dot) sibf (dot) jp slash e. QSL via the JARL bureau.

(Southgate)

**

DX

In DX, word that ON4AFU will be on the air from Ko Butang Island October 26th to November 4th as HS0ZJF stroke 9. He will be active on High Frequency bands on CW only. QSL via ON4AFU

7L4DXT and K1GI will be operational from Sint Maarten Island from November 18th to the 24th as PJ7XK and PJ7I respectively. They will be active on 160 through 10 meters on CW, SSB and some Digital modes. QSL PJ7XK via 7L4DXT and PJ7I via JG2BRI

KI5SF reports that he will be operational portable KH6 from about 0100 UTC October 26th to 10:00 UTC October 27th. Listen out for him on 160 through 6 meters except for 60 meters on SSB and CW. QSL to KI5SF.

A group of operators from Switzerland will be active from Aitutaki Island in the Cook Island chain from November 12th to the 30th using the call signs E51C, E51ABS, E51BZD and E51CHX. Listen out for them on 80 through 10 meters using CW, SSB, and PSK. QSL this operation via HB9BXU

JA7HMZ and JA7EPO will be active from Pohnpei Island from November 23rd to the 28 as V63DX and V63EPO. They also plan to operate in CQ World Wide DX CW Contest on November 24th and 25th as V6A. QSL V63DX via JA7HMZ, V63EOP via JA7EPO and V6A via JA7HMZ.

JH1EAQ will be active from Palau in CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest On October 27th and 28th as T88EB. QSL via home call only.

Lastly, looking to the future comes word that G3SWH and G3RTE will be active from Guadalcanal Island in the Solomon Islands from February 18th to the 28th of 2013. The callsign to be used will be H44KW operating on 80 through 10 meters using CW only. QSL via G3SWH direct or via the bureau.

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: BIG ANTENNA WIN DOWN-UNDER ANGERS NEIGHNORS

And finally this week, a New Zealand ham has won a major tower and antenna victory but his neighbors are far from happy with the city council's decision. This, even before the antenna system is erected. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Meachen, Zed-L-2-B-H-F, reports from down-under:

--

Pyes Pa, New Zealand residents concerned about the proposed installation of a 20 meter high radio antenna are disappointed that the Tauranga City Council won't fight a legal battle on their behalf.

Residents of Veda Glen have petitioned the city council to appeal an Environment Court decision which allows amateur radio enthusiasts to erect radio masts up to 20 meters or 65 feet high. They say a radio antenna proposed by a neighbor would be an eyesore, create wind noise and devalue their properties.

While Councilors seemed to sympathize with the residents' plight they also said that based on their legal advice, an appeal to the High Court would be pointless. The council had previously tried to restrict private radio masts to a maximum height of 9 meters or about 30 feet. However an appeal to the Environment Court by the Tauranga Emergency Communications Group and the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters saw the maximum height raised to the 20 meter maximum.

Council senior policy planner Campbell Larking told councilors approximately $100,000 New Zealand dollars had been spent fighting the case in the Environment Court, and he estimated an appeal to the High Court would cost another $50,000. Also that a High Court ruling would not be binding and the matter would simply be sent back to the same

Environment Court judge to re-consider.

A resolution proposed by Councilor Murray Guy, which sought to launch an investigation into Environment Court and City Plan processes in order to enhance community consultation did not find enough support and failed.

The bottom line is that the unnamed ham can put up his 65 foot high mast along with the antenna that will sit on top of it. It's unknown when that installation will be completed.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, in Nelson, New Zealand.

--

Outside the chambers, the residents said a legal challenge was outside their reach and they were disappointed the council had backed away from fighting the case on their behalf. (bayofplentytimes.co.nz)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, near Houston Texas saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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217. Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-12 11:30:14 UTC
From: Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net>
Message-ID: <k585e5$jj4$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 386

Hi, all,

After several years of not-so-active activity, I'm wanting to get back into satellite communications. What are the commonly used programs for tracking satellites there now?

As a side note - I saw one thread from over a year ago about tracking programs from the early 80's. I remember those - and how glad we were to get them! Back in the early Oscar days (early 70's) we didn't have computers. We tracked satellites by hand on maps of the U.S. (or the world). Those of us who were broke (i.e. college students) covered the maps with Saran Wrap or similar; the more affluent had the maps under a sheet of plexiglass - both so we could write on them with wax pens then "erase" them later. Even the rudimentary text programs were great - input your lat/long and the keps and you could get a minute-by-minute azimuth and elevation to the satellite. How great it was! :)

--
==========
Remove the "x" from my email address
Jerry, AI0K
jstucklex@attglobal.net
==========

218. Re: Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-12 17:20:03 UTC
From: Patty Winter <patty1@wintertime.com>
Message-ID: <5078513b$0$71192$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 387

In article <k585e5$jj4$1@dont-email.me>,
Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net> wrote:
>
>After several years of not-so-active activity, I'm wanting to get back
>into satellite communications. What are the commonly used programs for
>tracking satellites there now?

I suspect that for simple tracking, folks are mostly using websites.

But if you want software that can also steer your antennas, AMSAT
sells some.

Patty N6BIS

219. Re: Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-12 20:02:05 UTC
From: Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net>
Message-ID: <k59qp5jm1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 388

On 10/12/2012 1:20 PM, Patty Winter wrote:
> In article <k585e5$jj4$1@dont-email.me>,
> Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net> wrote:
>>
>> After several years of not-so-active activity, I'm wanting to get back
>> into satellite communications. What are the commonly used programs for
>> tracking satellites there now?
>
> I suspect that for simple tracking, folks are mostly using websites.
>
> But if you want software that can also steer your antennas, AMSAT
> sells some.
>
>
> Patty N6BIS
>

Hi, Patty, and thanks for the reply.

I *could* do it on a website, I guess - but would just rather do it on my own laptop. I don't always have internet access when I'm looking things up, i.e. out in the field somewhere where there isn't a hotspot handy (Field Day is a great example).

But if it has to be web based, I can live with it. Any recommended sites?

--
==========
Remove the "x" from my email address
Jerry, AI0K
jstucklex@attglobal.net
==========

220. Re: Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-13 02:59:41 UTC
From: jimp@specsol.spam.sux.com
Message-ID: <d2emk9-nl8.ln1@mail.specsol.com>
Source record: 389

Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net> wrote:

> But if it has to be web based, I can live with it. Any recommended sites?

http://www.heavens-above.com/

Radio amateur satellites under Satellites provides 24 hour predictions is
one.

http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/tools/predict/

By satellite up to the next 50 passes.

221. Re: Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-13 02:59:56 UTC
From: Patty Winter <patty1@wintertime.com>
Message-ID: <507892c9$0$71151$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 390

In article <k59qp5jm1@dont-email.me>,
Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net> wrote:

[snip]

>I *could* do it on a website, I guess - but would just rather do it on
>my own laptop. I don't always have internet access when I'm looking
>things up, i.e. out in the field somewhere where there isn't a hotspot
>handy (Field Day is a great example).

Okay, then you'll probably want to check out the ARRL and AMSAT
websites for ideas.

>But if it has to be web based, I can live with it. Any recommended sites?

Heavens-above.com.

Patty

222. Re: Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-13 03:01:26 UTC
From: Fred McKenzie <fmmck@aol.com>
Message-ID: <fmmck-F665A2.21253512102012@5ad64b5e.bb.sky.com>
Source record: 391

In article <k585e5$jj4$1@dont-email.me>,
Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net> wrote:

> After several years of not-so-active activity, I'm wanting to get back
> into satellite communications. What are the commonly used programs for
> tracking satellites there now?
>
> As a side note - I saw one thread from over a year ago about tracking
> programs from the early 80's. I remember those - and how glad we were
> to get them!

Jerry-

I recall an MS-DOS program that would display a satellite track on a map of the world. I don't remember its name, something like SATTRACK or TRACKSAT. If you can find it, it may still work under MS-DOS.

I moved up to a Macintosh computer before Windows came out. There was a program called Orbitrack that worked on the Classic Mac operating systems. I don't think it displayed a map. I used it to print out azimuth and elevation of satellites, plotted each minute of a satellite pass, including whether it was visible or not. The latest Mac operating system does not support the Classic programs.

Doing a web search, I found:
<http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Software/Satellite_tracking/>

Another website that you may find interesting:
<http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/1999/ast06may99_1/>

That URL appears to be old. NASA used to have a website running the JPASS and JTRACK programs, but my old links don't work any more.

Fred
K4DII

223. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-15 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1350280801@panix.com>
Source record: 392
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
```

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

---

2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

224. November 2012 QST - Digital Edition

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-15 14:27:16 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121015135635.723F326C9D0@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 393
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

*November 2012 QST - Digital Edition - *Go Now>
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201211/>
Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201211/>

Digital QST

September 2012 QST - Digital Edition
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201211/>Dear ARRL Member,

The digital edition of November /QST/ is available now! Go to this link
and start reading: November 2012 /QST/
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201211/>.

* Build an inexpensive HF power attenuator
* Learn a different way to assemble PL-259 plugs
* See PSK31 "up close"
* Put your remote antenna tuner to work on 160 meters
* Turn back the clock with an easy single-tube transmitter
* See how students "Reach for the Stars" with Amateur Radio
* Bring your vintage receiver and transmitter together with the "Boat
Anchor Buddy"
* ...and much more!

Enjoy Content You Won't Find in the Print Edition...

* Video overviews of the Array Solutions AIMuhf impedance analyzer and
the DZKit HT-7 40-meter AM handheld transceiver.
* A circuit board layout and additional information for WB8DQT's "Boat
Anchor Buddy."

And, look for the announcement on pages 30-31 for new publications every
ham should have including the 90_^th edition /ARRL Handbook/---hot off
the press. Order early and you'll get the hardcover edition for the
softcover price.

Enjoy this issue!

73,

Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Editor

What is a digital edition?
The digital edition of /QST/ is a web-based edition of the journal...a
way to read and interact with the current issue of /QST/ anytime,
anywhere. It simulates the look and feel of our printed version,

complete with page flipping, indexing and easy ways to move around to get to the content you want. You can choose to read it online, or download the entire issue to your laptop. Each issue includes unique, digital-edition-only content such as video, audio features and extra content. Members can also access the digital archive for access to previous issues.

How do I access the digital edition?
Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access this benefit. You can always find a link to the current digital edition and archives at www.arrl.org/qst <http://www.arrl.org/qst>.

To login or register, go to www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

Forgot password? Go to www.arrl.org/forgot-password <http://www.arrl.org/forgot-password> to reset your password.

Not a member? Join today <http://www.arrl.org/join/QDF> and get access to the current digital edition, now.

Need help? Visit the digital edition help page <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq> for frequently asked questions.
Need more help? Contact Member Services by telephone 860-594-0200 or 888-277-5289 (US only) or email circulation@arrl.org <mailto:circulation@arrl.org>.

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You can choose to opt-out* of the mailed, print edition of /QST/ at any time. Complete our online opt-out form <http://www.arrl.org/QST-print-edition-opt-out-form>. Due to the lead time required to prepare /QST/ for mailing, you may receive one last printed issue.
* Disclaimer: Choosing to opt-out of the print edition of /QST/ is voluntary and will not result in a refund or reduction of ARRL membership dues. Any savings will be used to extend the ARRL's reach in the areas of public service, education, advocacy, technology and membership.

About this email
You are subscribed to receive monthly notification of the digital edition of /QST/. If you have an ARRL website user account, you can manage all of your e-mail preferences at www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

Digital QST

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225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494 USA
www.arrl.org <http://www.arrl.org>

225. Re: Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-16 12:50:41 UTC
From: Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net>
Message-ID: <k5jhn7kbl1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 394

On 10/12/2012 10:59 PM, Patty Winter wrote:
> In article <k59qp5jm1@dont-email.me>,
> Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net> wrote:
>
> [snip]
>
>> I *could* do it on a website, I guess - but would just rather do it on
>> my own laptop. I don't always have internet access when I'm looking
>> things up, i.e. out in the field somewhere where there isn't a hotspot
>> handy (Field Day is a great example).
>
> Okay, then you'll probably want to check out the ARRL and AMSAT
> websites for ideas.
>

Sorry for the delay - took off for a couple of days.

I did that before I checked here. It looks like most of the programs
haven't been updated in years. One I showed promise required Java 6 but
I moved to Java 7 quite a while ago.

>
>> But if it has to be web based, I can live with it. Any recommended sites?
>
> Heavens-above.com.
>
>
> Patty
>

Thanks - didn't know about that one.

--
==========
Remove the "x" from my email address
Jerry Stuckle, AI0K
jstucklex@attglobal.net
==========

226. Re: Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-16 12:50:56 UTC
From: Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net>
Message-ID: <k5ji3vodk1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 395

On 10/12/2012 11:01 PM, Fred McKenzie wrote:
> In article <k585e5$jj4$1@dont-email.me>,
> Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net> wrote:
>
>> After several years of not-so-active activity, I'm wanting to get back
>> into satellite communications. What are the commonly used programs for
>> tracking satellites there now?
>>
>> As a side note - I saw one thread from over a year ago about tracking
>> programs from the early 80's. I remember those - and how glad we were
>> to get them!
>
> Jerry-
>
> I recall an MS-DOS program that would display a satellite track on a map
> of the world. I don't remember its name, something like SATTRACK or
> TRACKSAT. If you can find it, it may still work under MS-DOS.
>
> I moved up to a Macintosh computer before Windows came out. There was a
> program called Orbitrack that worked on the Classic Mac operating
> systems. I don't think it displayed a map. I used it to print out
> azimuth and elevation of satellites, plotted each minute of a satellite
> pass, including whether it was visible or not. The latest Mac operating
> system does not support the Classic programs.
>
> Doing a web search, I found:
> <http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Software/Satellite_tracking/>
>
> Another website that you may find interesting:
> <http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/1999/ast06may99_1/>
>
> That URL appears to be old. NASA used to have a website running the
> JPASS and JTRACK programs, but my old links don't work any more.
>
> Fred
> K4DII
>

Sorry for the slow response - took a couple of days off :)

Thanks, Fred, I didn't know about the dxzone page. That's a help.

And yes, I agree about the NASA site. I played with JPass many years
ago - it was pretty good, especially the way it could email you when a
pass was coming over. But it doesn't look like it's been updated since

1999.

Thanks again - I appreciate it.

--
==========
Remove the "x" from my email address
Jerry Stuckle
JDS Computer Training Corp.
jstucklex@attglobal.net
==========

227. FCC Daily Digest 10/18/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-18 16:03:54 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524555-2012.10.18-11.25.34--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 396
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 202 October 18
, 2012
* * * * *

[...]

AMENDMENT OF PART 27 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES TO GOVERN THE OPERATION OF
WCS IN THE 2.3 GHZ BAND; ESTABLISHMENT OF RULES AND POLICIES FOR THE DARS S
ERVICE IN THE 2310-2360 MHZ FREQUENCY BAND. FCC Removes Regulatory Barrie
rs To Free Up 30 MHZ Of Broadband Spectrum. (Dkt No. 07-293 95-91). Actio
n by: the Commission. Adopted: 10/17/2012 by Order on Reconsideration. (F
CC No. 12-130). IB WTB OET http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachma
tch/FCC-12-130A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A2.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A3.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A4.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A5.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A6.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A3.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A4.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A5.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A6.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A2.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A3.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A4.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A5.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-130A6.txt

[...]

228. The ARRL Letter for October 18, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-19 02:37:46 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121018222011.52B1526DF05@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 397
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

October 18, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + 2012 ARRL National Convention Recap
- + On the Air: Get Ready for JOTA This Weekend
- Get Ready for the 7th Annual ARRL On-Line Auction
- + ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, Retires
from League
- + Postage Rates to Increase in January
- + Digital Edition of November QST Now Available
- + Ted Rappaport, N9NB, Named Recipient of IEEE Education Award
- + At the Workbench: Attention Kit Builders -- The ARRL Wants to Hear
from You!
- Solar Update
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + 2012 ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION RECAP

If you missed the 2012 ARRL National Convention -- held October
12-14 in Santa Clara, California -- or you just want to relive the fun
and excitement, be sure to check out a recap of all the events on
Friday <http://www.arrl.org/news/friday-pacificon-snapshot>, Saturday
<http://www.arrl.org/news/saturday-pacificon-snapshot> and Sunday
<http://www.arrl.org/news/pacificon-sunday>. There's also a great bunch
of photos
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10151093787602408.445733.200692124
07&type=1&l=9adc8c9404>
from the Convention on the ARRL's Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org>.

==> + ON THE AIR: GET READY FOR JOTA THIS WEEKEND
```

The 55th annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is October 20-21. This 48-hour event runs from 0000 (local time) on Saturday, October 20 (right at midnight Friday) through midnight (local time) on Sunday, October 21. JOTA is an opportunity for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from all over the world to experience the magic and excitement of Amateur Radio. According to Boy Scouts of America JOTA Organizer Jim Wilson, K5ND, more than 250 JOTA stations have registered with the BSA; stations do not need to register with the BSA to participate in JOTA. "We estimate that there will be nearly 17,000 Scouts in 45 states, Puerto Rico and a few countries on the air for JOTA," Wilson told the ARRL. "We have compiled a spreadsheet that lists locations, call signs, detailed contact information, bands and modes for these stations. We invite hams to use this information in their JOTA activities." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/get-ready-for-jota-this-weekend>.

==> GET READY FOR THE 7TH ANNUAL ARRL ON-LINE AUCTION

The Seventh Annual ARRL On-Line Auction <http://www.arrl.org/auction> opened for preview on Tuesday, October 16, and will open for bidding at 10 AM EDT (1400 UTC) on Thursday, October 25. According to ARRL On-Line Auction Coordinator Lisa Tardette, KB1MOI, there is a large assortment of ARRL Product Review items, including an Elecraft KPA500 HF/6 meter power amplifier, an ICOM IC-7410 HF/6 meter transceiver, a Yaesu FT-450D HF 6 meter transceiver, a Kenwood TM-281A 2 meter FM transceiver and an MFJ-998 RT and MFJ-994BRT remote auto antenna tuner.

The ARRL On-Line Auction also features a wide assortment of books, including ARRL Handbooks from the 1920s and 1930s -- most notably, a first edition of the 1926 Radio Amateur's Handbook -- and a set of three first-day-of-issue covers of the 1964 5-cent stamp highlighting Amateur Radio (see an image of a stamp here <http://www.qsl.net/wj8c/>).

"Once again this year, bidders will find a large variety of product review equipment, vintage books, novelty items and a number of very special items that have been donated by the crew of the ABC Television's Last Man Standing, starring Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT," Tardette explained. "In order to place a bid, you must register on the ARRL On-Line Auction website. You may browse the website and scope out those 'must-have' items without being a registered bidder, and you can register at any time during the auction. If you are interested in some great bargains -- and some great fun -- you really need to check out the ARRL On-Line Auction." The 2012 ARRL On-Line Auction runs through 11:45 PM EDT on October 31 (0345 UTC November 1). Contact Tardette via e-mail <ltardette@arrl.org> with any questions concerning the ARRL On-Line Auction.

==> + ARRL MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER ALLEN PITTS, W1AGP, RETIRES FROM LEAGUE

After more than eight years as the ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager, Allen Pitts, W1AGP, has retired. During his tenure, Pitts was

responsible for developing public relations campaigns that featured the many facets of the Amateur Radio Service: Hello Radio came first in 2006 and highlighted the fun and friendships of ham radio. It was followed by Emergency Radio, which built on the ARRL and the Amateur Radio Service's response during Hurricane Katrina. We Do That -- Radio in 2008 showed the technologies used in Amateur Radio. In 2011, the Do It Yourself (DIY) campaign was unveiled.

Building a corps of Public Information Officers (PIOs) throughout the country, Pitts believed that all news was local. "With this in mind," he explained, "I felt the best use of ARRL resources was to provide local PIOs with the very best materials we can and let them use them in their home areas." The strategy obviously worked, as the number of PIOs volunteers increased. "There are almost 200 graduates of PR-101, more than 500 subscribers to the PR e-mail reflector and the number of media hits about Amateur Radio grew larger and larger." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-media-and-public-relations-manager-allen-pitts-w1agp-retires-from-league>.

==> + POSTAGE RATES TO INCREASE IN JANUARY

The US Postal Service has announced that as of January 27, 2013, the cost to mail First Class letters, postcards and packages within the US will go up. The cost to mail a first class letter will be 46 cents, while the cost to mail a postcard will be 33 cents, an increase of 1 cent for each. This is the third increase for postcard postage in less than two years; in April 2011, the USPS boosted the postcard stamp price from 28 cents to 29 cents, and from 29 cents to 32 cents <http://www.arrl.org/news/postage-rates-to-increase-in-january> in January 2012. The USPS will also introduce a First Class Mail Global Forever Stamp in January. This new stamp will allow customers to mail 1-ounce letters anywhere in the world for one set price of $1.10. The cost to mail flat-rate Priority Mail packages and letters will also increase. Click here <http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2012/pr12_114.htm> for more information on all the 2013 postal increases.

==> + DIGITAL EDITION OF NOVEMBER QST NOW AVAILABLE

The digital version of the November QST is now available <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201211/> to ARRL members. The digital version includes many features not available in the print version, such as:

- Video overviews of the Array Solutions AIMuhf impedance analyzer and the DZKit HT-7 40-meter AM handheld transceiver.
- A circuit board layout and additional information on how to bring your vintage receiver and transmitter together with the "Boat Anchor Buddy," by Ralph E. Taggert, WB8DQT.

Every issue of QST is filled with the news and features you need to keep active in Amateur Radio. Find all this and more in the November

issue of QST:

- Build an inexpensive HF power attenuator.
- Learn a different way to assemble PL-259 plugs.
- See PSK31 "up close."
- Put your remote antenna tuner to work on 160 meters.
- Turn back the clock with an easy single-tube transmitter.
- See how students "Reach for the Stars" with Amateur Radio.
- ...and much more!

==> + TED RAPPAPORT, N9NB, NAMED RECIPIENT OF IEEE EDUCATION AWARD

Ted Rappaport, N9NB, of New York City, has been named the recipient of the 2012 William E. Sayle Award for Achievement in Education, given by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Education Society. This prestigious award is presented annually to an IEEE Education Society member who has made significant contributions in engineering education. Rappaport, an ARRL Life Member, is a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the Polytechnic Institute of New York University. According to the university, Rappaport was selected to receive the award "for his exceptional technical and varied contributions in the creation of research centers, educational books and software and for the creation of products in the wireless industry." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/ted-rappaport-n9nb-named-recipient-of-ieee-education-award>.

==> + AT THE WORKBENCH: ATTENTION KIT BUILDERS -- THE ARRL WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The ARRL wants to hear from kit builders about simple, useful, educational and exciting kits. These kits should have a high probability for success and would serve as stepping stones for more advanced projects. We are looking all sorts of kits, but RF detector kits that work in the 380 MHz-2.5 GHz range are of special interest. The kits should also have a "Wow, I built this and it works!" factor. If you know of such a kit, please let us know by filling out a simple form here <http://www.arrl.org/technology> by October 31.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: Sunspot activity rose this week, with the average daily sunspot numbers up more than 45 points to 97, while the average daily solar flux rose more than 24 points to 129.2. We saw high geomagnetic activity on October 12-14, with the planetary A index at 12, 38 and 19, the college A index (in Alaska) at 18, 70 and 33 and the mid-latitude A index (measured in Virginia) at 12, 28 and 20. On October 13, a solar wind spilled through a gap in the Earth's magnetosphere, making for unsettled conditions, and aurora were seen across the northern tier states in the US. The latest prediction is for the solar flux to peak at 135 (not at 150 as predicted earlier) for October 18-21, 130 on October 22-23, 125 on October 24, 130 on October

25-28, then down to 125, 120, 115, 110, 105 and 100 for October
29-November 3, and then 105 on November 4-5, peaking again at 140 on
November 12-14. The predicted planetary A index is 8 on October 18-19,
5 and 8 on October 20-21, 5 on October 22-November 7, then 10, 20, 15,
12, 8, 8, 10 and 8 on November 8-15, and down to 5 again on November 16
through the end of November. Look for more on the ARRL website on
Friday, October 19. For more information concerning radio propagation,
visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page
<http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

This Week in Radiosport

This week:

- October 15-19 -- ARRL School Club Roundup
<http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>
- October 19 -- NCCC Sprint, MCG Autumn Sprint
- October 20 -- Iowa QSO Party; Feld Hell Sprint
- October 20-21 -- New York QSO Party; 10-10 International Fall Contest
(CW); Stew Perry Topband Challenge; JARTS WW RTTY Contest; Worked All
Germany Contest; Araucaria VHF Contest; 10-10 International Fall
Contest (CW); W/VE Islands QSO Party
- October 21 -- Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint (CW); UBA ON Contest (2
meters)
- October 21-22 -- Illinois QSO Party
- October 22 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- October 24 -- SKCC Sprint
- October 24-25 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- October 26 -- NCCC Sprint
- October 27-28 -- CQ WW DX Contest (SSB)

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest
-computer-expo-1>,
Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes
t-computer-show'>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-
1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

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s>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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229. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1836 - October 19 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-19 09:00:12 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121019090003.9A02033CC5@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 398
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1836 - October 19 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1836 with a release date of October 19 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. A case to be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court could limit or curtail your ability to resell your personal property including used ham radio gear; the Department of Homeland Security to provide emergency communications training at Hamvention 2013; ham radio gets new responsibilities from Army MARS; the FCC asks assistance in tracking down cellphone and GPS jamming devices. We will look into that and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1836 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

LEGAL WRANGLING: SUPREME ASKED TO RULE THAT PUBLIC HAS NO RIGHT TO RESELL OWNED GOODS

How would you feel if there was a law that kept you from selling or even giving away a piece of ham gear or anything else you think you own without first getting permission from the original manufacturer? Sound crazy? Well this is a legal precedent that the United States Supreme Court has been asked to rule on as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V:

--

Imagine, if you possibly can, the Dayton Hamvention, the Orlando Hamcation or the Huntsville Hamfest with no flea market.

Or, what about ham gear disappearing altogether from eBay or Craigslist.

Some fear this could be a real possibility, depending on how the U.S. Supreme Court rules in a case that could impact a nearly 104-year-old doctrine recognized by the high court that allows us to resell items without fear of a copyright holder coming after us.

The doctrine essentially says the copyright holder had control only over the first sale.

But a case decided last year in the U.S. Court of Appeals in the Second Circuit in New York has the potential to re-set that doctrine.

The case involves a man from Thailand who came to the United States in 1997 to enroll in Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

The student found that the same textbooks they were asking him to buy in the book store could be had for much less in Thailand.

The man asked his relatives there to help him buy the books and send them back overseas to him in New York.

Later, the man got some entrepreneurial spirit and court documents in the case show he decided to start selling textbooks on eBay. There's some dispute as to how much the man made on the sales.

So, the publisher of the books objects and brings a suit against him.

The publisher admits it was charging less for books sold overseas, but it claims the man was guilty of copyright infringement. But the man counters his sales are covered by that first-sale practice.

The federal appeals court in New York upheld a lower court decision saying, no, that doctrine only applies to stuff produced in the United States and not to anything made overseas.

That court's ruling, in the view of some constitutional scholars, could now throw into jeopardy the whole idea of what you buy at flea markets, or yard sales and on-line sales of used goods.

Polk Wagner, a law professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School here in Philadelphia, isn't ready to push the panic just yet with that conclusion.

Wagner says in this case, it's about copyrights...

"So the question here that the Supreme Court has got to wrestle with is to try and figure out how these two provisions of the copyright act -one that says that you can't import anything that's copyrighted without the permission of the copyright owner and also one that says lawful owners of books are allowed to do what they want with the copies of the books that they purchase," Wagner says.

He says there's a bit of conflict here...

"So, the legal question is how those two provisions of the Copyright Act work together or don't as the case may be," Wagner says. "Courts have wrestled with this for the last 5 or 10 years and have not reached any satisfactory conclusions. So, hence, the Supreme Court is going to take it up."

eBay has filed a brief on the issue warning that the Second Circuit's ruling would have significant consequences for trade and ecommerce. And, in a broader reach, the company says it could hurt small businesses and consumers and cost jobs in the U.S.

Wagner, the University of Pennsylvania law professor, says there's another area and it may involve patents.

For example, he says in cases involving ham gear, it's legal to buy overseas and import the gear. And, there's nothing under the patent laws that prevents you from reselling the gear.

However, Wagner says there's another matter and it has to do with software that may be included or needed to operate the gear.

And, while most companies or software developers will sell you a license to use their software, it's not the same thing as selling you a book. And, while Wagner says that's not at issue here it eventually it could be sorted out by the courts in the future.

Stay tuned.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

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The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments on the case on October 29th. If it does rule with the appellate court, it's likely that the matter would be brought to Congress to force a change in law. However that could take months if not years or even decades. Until then, consumers, including ham radio operators would be stuck between a rock and a hard place when trying to resell their belongings without breaking the law.

(Marketwatch, other published reports)

**

RESCUE RADIO: DHS TO TEAM UP WITH DAYTON HAMVENTION ON EMCOMM TRAINING

Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications is teaming up with the folks in Dayton to provide free emergency communications training in conjunction with Hamvention 2013. Amateur Radio Newsline's George Bowen, W2XBS, reports:

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The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications will be on hand at the next Dayton Hamvention. This to conduct its nationally recognized NIMS/ICS compliant Auxiliary Emergency Communications course.

The course itself focuses on a number of important aspects of emergency communications. These include auxiliary communications interoperability, emergency operation center etiquette, on-the-air etiquette, FCC rules and regulations, auxiliary communications training and planning, certification and accreditation to mention only a few. The objective of the training is intended to supplement and standardize an operator's basic knowledge of emergency amateur radio communications in a public safety context.

This Office of Emergency Communications workshop is designed for auxiliary emergency communicators who volunteer to provide backup

emergency radio communications support to public safety and emergency response professionals and their agencies. Typically this includes amateur radio communicators from groups such as MARS, ARES, RACES, SATERN and the like. The course will actually be held just prior to Hamvention, but still in the Dayton area and as part of Hamvention 2013.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm George Bowen, W2XBS, st the North-East Bureau in Albany, New York.

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Details on any pre-required training for this free course is on-line at www.hamvention.org. Information on for registering for this special free course will be posted at the same site in the near future. (Hamvention.org)

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ARMY MARS: MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAM RADIO VOLUNTEERS

Stephen G. Klinefelter, Chief of the Arrmy's Military Affiliate Radio System better known as Army MARS has announced a major leadership realignment. This, at a conference of the auxiliary's Region Directors held Sept. 12th to the 14th in Dallas, Texas.

Under the new terms, volunteer ham radio operators have assumed day-to-day management responsibility previously exercised from the MARS headquarters at Ft Huachuca, Arizona. Each of the auxiliary's 11 regions will be under command of its director. Together the 11 directors will form a policy-making Governance Executive Board for the auxiliary as a whole.

This is a striking revision of the military's traditional top-down chain of command. It was symbolically activated at the first national leadership conference in the Military Auxiliary Radio System's 87-year-history.

Army MARS reports to the Network Enterprise Technology Command which manages Army computer networks and communications systems worldwide. Chief Klinefelter, who retired as a full colonel in the Signal Corps after 31 years, returned to the Network Enterprise Technology Command as a senior civilian employee and is Deputy Operations Officer G3. He added the MARS post last spring.

An in-depth article on the changes to Army Mars authored by those involved is on the Web at www.eham.net/articles/29106. (Army MARS, QRZ.com)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the K4LJP repeater serving West Palm Beach, Florida.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC SAYS THAT UNREGULATED PART 15 DEVICES INTERFERING WITH AVIATION WEATHER SYSTEM

The FCC has acted to curb interference to aviation Terminal Doppler Weather Radars Systems coming from unlicensed Part 15 devices. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP reports:

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The FCC's Enforcement Bureau recently took action against several companies for operating devices that caused interference to Terminal Doppler Weather Radars maintained by the Federal Aviation Administration. Terminal Doppler Weather Radars systems operating in the 5600 to 5650 MHz band are used by the FAA to obtain quantitative measurements for gust fronts, wind shear, microbursts, and similar information.

Investigations have been conducted by the FCC, the FAA, and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration in several areas of the United States and Puerto Rico. These have revealed that much of the interference stems from wireless devices sharing the same band as Terminal Doppler Weather Radars systems, and operating outdoors in the vicinity of airports at high elevations that are line-of-sight to the radar installations. Also that most are operating inconsistent with the FCC Part 15 Rules.

The Enforcement Bureau and the FAA are continuing to investigate additional areas where interference is reported to Terminal Doppler Weather Radars systems. The FCC says that it will continue to take appropriate enforcement action as necessary.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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More information on this matter is available in FCC release DA 12-459 released on September 27th and FCC Enforcement Asdvisory 2012-07 released on the same date. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC CREATES TOLL FREE NUMBER TO REPORT CELLPHONE AND GPS JAMMING

The FCC wants your help in locating anyone who is using a cellular telephone or GPS jamming device and to do this the Commission's Enforcement Bureau has launched a dedicated jammer tip line at

1-855-55-NOJAM or 1-855-556-6526. This, to make it easier for the public to report the use or sale of illegal cell phone, GPS or other signal jammers.

As has been said many times before, it is against the law to use, import, advertise, sell or ship a cellular telephone or GPS jammer or any other type of device that blocks, jams or interferes with authorized communications, whether on private or public property. As such, members of the public are being asked to call the FCC's toll free Jammer Tip Line immediately if you are aware of the ongoing use of a cell, GPS, or other signal jammer. Also please call if an employer operates a jammer in a workplace; you observe a jammer in operation at a school or college; you observe an advertisement for a jammer at a local store or you observe a jammer being operated on your local bus, train or other mass transit system.

One warning. This number is only for use to report cellphone or GPS jamming devices. Please do not call it to report that your favorite repeater is being jammed or that your QSO on 20 meters is being interfered with. Those matters will not be handled on this telephone line and will be of no interest to those taking cellphone or GPS jamming device calls.

Once again, the number where to report the use of cellphone or GPS jamming is 1-855-55-NOJAM or 1-855-556-6526. And calling that number is toll free. (FCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: K6H - HAM RADIO CELEBRATES HOLLYWOOD FROM CBS STUDIO CENTER STAGE 9

Ham Radio Celebrates Hollywood will be a special event operation held on Sunday, October 28th from 1600 to 2000 hours U-T-C. Sponsored by Southern California's PAPA repeater system, the event using the callsign K-6-H will originate from the Stage 9 of the CBS Studio Center facility in Studio City, California.

The historic Studio Center has been the production facility for such hit programs as Will and Grace, That 70's Show, Malcolm in the Middle, Spin City, Just Shoot Me, and 3rd Rock From the Sun. Nine seasons of Seinfeld were filmed on Stage 9 except for the first four episodes, which were shot at at another facility. Stage 9 is currently the home of ABC TV's Last Man Standing, starring Tim Allen. As such, several of the hams who work on Last Man Standing will be hand to host the PAPA operators.

A number of R-F and non-RF paths will be available to contact the stage 9 commemorative operation. These include HF, VHF, UHF, D-STAR, Echolink and IRLP. The operation will also be monitoring the Broadcast Employees Amateur Radio Society ABC and Disney interconnected amateur repeater system. This links W2ABC in Manhattan, New York, WD4WDW in Orlando, Florida and WB6AJE in Los Angeles. The BEARS system can be

accessed on Echolink at WD4WDW-R.

A schedule of operating times and frequencies will be published on the PAPA website at www.papasys.com. To facilitate contacts during the event, operators will blog in real-time at www.facebook.com/KA0XTT and on @NN6JA on Twitter. A special, limited edition QSL card will be issued to all confirmed contacts during this fun national event. (NN6JA)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: ALL DIGITAL AM HD TESTING ON ITS WAY

Information is surfacing regarding NAB Radio Technology Committee plans to test all-digital AM H-D Radio technology on an existing full carrier AM radio station.

The committee has been meeting since last November to discuss technical options for the revitalization of AM. Testing would quantify both indoor and outdoor coverage. In general, the goal is to verify whether the station coverage and robustness are improved with an all-digital signal in both day and night transmission. Also to quantify any change. There's little technical data in the public arena for all-digital AM operation.

Glynn Walden is CBS Radio Senior Vice President of Engineering. He said during the fall NAB Radio Show that a test station has been chosen with testing likely to begin right after the presidential elections. Walden and other committee members declined to identify the facility but some believe it will be a CBS station in an area that could be characterized as a medium sized market. You can read more about this AM broadcast digital experiment on-line at tinyurl.com/all-digital-am. (CGC, RW)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: 2012 AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM REMINDER

And a reminder that the 2012 AMSAT Space Symposium will be held on Friday, October 26th through Sunday, October 28th at the Holiday Inn Hotel at Orlando-International Airport. Downloadable paper registration forms in MS-Word and PDF formats are available at tinyurl.com/amsat-2012-reg. The Symposium Schedule web page has been updated with links to find more information about the planned activities. You can find it in cyberspace at tinyurl.com/symposium-program. More on the overall event is at www.amsat.org (AMSAT)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: RAC COLLECTING CLUB MEMBER BIOS FOR 2012 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

If you are a member of the Radio Club of America, please listen up. RCA is in the process of collecting data for the organizations 2012 Membership Directory that will include biographies. If you are a club member who has not yet done so, please go to tinyurl.com/rca-survey-2012 and fill out the online form. Also, please be certain to keep all biographical information on the form as space is limited. (RCA)

**

AWARDS: CQ INTRODUCES 40 CQ ZONES ON 160 PLAQUE

CQ has announced the availability of a special plaque for those who have achieved contact to all 40 CQ zones on 160 meters. This is considered the most difficult of all amateur radio awards to earn and because of this the Worked All Zones 160 Meter Plaque recognizes that receiving it as one of the elite Top Band DXers. If you believe you qualify, please contact W-A-Z Award Manager Floyd Gerald, N5FG, by e-mail to n5fg (at) cq-amateur-radio (dot) com for further details. (CQ via Facebook)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: DX SUMMIT APP

Some names in the news. Kevin Schutz has released a freeware application he calls code.google.com/p/dxer/. Its primary purpose is gather information from DX Summit. Schutz says that with this data and his application, you can easily find out if you already have made a contact or not with that country. More is on-line at the shortcut of tinyurl.com/dx-summit-app. (Via e-mail)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W2ML ORAL HISTORY VIDEO RELEASED

And Steve Mendelsohn W2ML, who passed away earlier this year, was an extremely active, enthusiastic member of the ham radio community. Among other things, he was an ARRL Vice-President and ran the ham radio communications for the New York Marathon. Professionally he was a broadcast engineer for CBS and ABC, and did frequency coordination for the National Football League spending 13 years as the Game Day Coordinator for the New York Jets. Then tragedy struck as he was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer and given only a short time to live.

Knowing that he had a vibrant story to tell, his lifelong friend Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, interviewed Steve at the 2011 Pacificon hamfest. Steve was the conventions guest of honor and it gave them what would be a final opportunity to video record an oral history of Steve's life.

Steve Mendelsohn passed away early in the morning of May 23rd. It was decided that the anniversary of the date of the interview would be apropos for its public release. As such it's now available at two locations.

Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, who edited the production, has it available at his HamRadioNow website at tinyurl.com/w2ml-video. It's also on YouTube at tinyurl.com/w2ml-life-story.

Even if you knew W2ML, and many hams did, you may yet learn a few things you did not know. If you didn't, then take this rare opportunity to hear the story of someone that many call a true trendsetter in the hobby and whose legacy will remain with us for decades to come. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: QATAR TO HOST FIRST MIDDLE EAST HAM RADIO FESTIVAL

The city of Doha will host the Qatar's first International Festival for Amateur Radio in December. This according to H E Abdullah bin Hamad Al Attiyah, who is the Chairman of the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority and the vice-chairman of the US Amateur Radio Society.

Al Attiyah, who is also chairperson of the board of directors of the Qatar Amateur Radio Society says that the festival will include a contest between amateur radio operators from all over the world. About 100 hams from across the globe will be invited to the festival to take part in the competition. The Qatar Amateur Radio Society will also establish five amateur radio stations in different parts of Doha during the festival, including the society's office and the festival venue itself.

Announcement of an exact date for this event is expected to be announced shortly. The festival is being dubbed as the first of its kind in Middle East and will take place in conjunction with the Qatar National Day celebrations.

Doha is the capital city of the state of Qatar and is located on the coast of the Persian Gulf. (The Peninsula)

**

WORLDBEAT: INDIA TO ADD 839 NEW FM BROADCASAT STATIONS

India's public service broadcaster, Prasar Bharati Broadcasting, plans to soon set up 839 new FM stations in 290 cities in that nation. According to India's Secretary of the Union Information Broadcasting Ministry, these new radio stations will be a part of the country's

expanding private sector. The regions of Jammu and Kashmir are to be the focal points for what is being termed as this new broadcasting initiative. (Hindu Business Line, The Statesman, RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: HOW SOLAR STORMS CREATE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

The British Broadcasting Corporation has released a short video that explains in laymen's terms how solar storms affected the Earth's magnetic field to create the Aurora Borealis. The news story features Professor Dag Lorentzen who uses a simple diagram drawn in the snow to explain how this phenomenon of nature takes place. The story was taped in Svalbard and you can see it on line at tinyurl.com/bbc-aurora-story. (Southgate, BBC)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: HAMS ASKED TO HELP FIND MISSING F1 CUBESAT

An article published on the AMSAT-UK website reports that the F Space team at the F-P-T University in Viet Nam are requesting Amateur Radio operators continue to listen for their F-1 CubeSat. The mini satellite went missing shortly after it was deployed from the International Space Station on October 4 but never heard on Earth.

F 1 was expected to begin transmitting beacon alternatively on its main and backup channels 30 minutes after deployment. Its operating frequencies are on 437.485 MHz while in daylight and 145.980 in satellite darkness.

More information and guide to download F-1 telemetry decoder can be found at tinyurl.com/f1-info. Decoded data can be submitted on using a File Transfer Protocol client to thuvt (at) fpt (dot) edu Dot)vn. Audio recordings are highly appreciated. (F1 Cubesat Team)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ISRAELI GPS CUBESAT BEING BUILT

Israel is planning to launch a student built ham radio microsat. The Space Duchifat-1 is an experimental and educational CubeSat being developed and built by students at the Space Laboratory of the Herzliya Science Centre.

The CubeSat will carry an APRS digipeater operating on 145.825 MHz and a UHF/VHF 1200 bps B-P-S-K transceiver that can provide a CW beacon and an FM to DSB transponder.

The main mission of the satellite is to transmit real-time information via packet radio from a Low Earth Orbit using the Automatic Position Reporting System protocol. The satellite will allow remote traveler's to access the bird for worldwide position, status reporting and messaging. This using simple handheld or mobile radios with

omni-directional whip antennas.

The project is directed by Dr. Ana Heller with support from the Herzliya city municipality and the Israeli Amateur Radio Club. At this moment no launch date or orbit details are available. (ANS)

**

ON THE AIR: SAQ TO TRANSMIT ON UNITED NATIONS DAY

On the air, word that the Alexander Association will activate the giant SAQ radio-wave alternator on Wednesday, October 24th. This, in recognition of United Nations Day.

Transmissions will begin at about 10:10 UTC, and a special commemorative message will be sent at 10:30 UTC using CW on 17.2 kHz. Unfortunately, reports from the transmission cannot be confirmed by QSL card.

The Alexander Association is a group of European radio enthusiasts who preserve and demonstrate the old ultra long wave Alexanderson electro-mechanical transmitter located at Grimeton, Sweden. The site houses the only working Alexanderson rotating alternator radio transmitter in the world and is classified as a World Heritage Site.

More on the transmitter is at the society Website at www.alexander.n.se (Association Alexander)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF THE PACIFIC RAILWAY ACT

And the Union Pacific Amateur Radio Club will sponsor Special Event UP150 on December 1st. The operation commemorates the 150 years since President Abraham Lincoln signed the Pacific Railway Act of 1862 and directed the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific to construct a transcontinental railroad. The event will use the call sign WOUPR. It will begin at 6am Central and end at 8 pm Pacific. Many present and past Union Pacific employees are expected to operate during that time frame in hope of talking with you. A special QSL will be available. More information is on-line at www.pocatelloarc.org/uprr. (Union Pacific ARC)

**

DX

In DX, F1NGP will be active stroke FG from Saint Francois Island in Guadeloupe through October 26th. He will be operational on 40 through 10 meters on CW , SSB , RTTY QSL via his home call.

G3RWF who was expected to be active this month from Uganda 5X1NH has announced that his trip is now postponed. No reason was given.

WJ2O will be operational as 8P9DF from St. Philip, Barbados between November 21st and the 28th. Activity will be on all HF bands using mainly CW and as an entry in the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest on November 24th and 25th. Outside of the contest, he will be on 30, 17 and 12 meters. QSL via WJ2O.

HB9OAU will be on the air from the Maldives as 8Q7AU between November 26th and December 11th. Activity will be holiday style on 80 through 10 meters SSB only. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

N3IQ will be operational as C6AQQ from Nassau's Providence Island between October 25th to the 31st. Activity will be mostly on the lower bands. QSL via N3IQ, direct, via the bureau or electronically using Logbook of the WQorld or eQSL.

Lastly, ZL1LC planning to be operational from the Chatham Islands hrom March 21st to the 27th of 2013 as Zed-L-7-L-C. He planning to be active PSK only. No times, frequencies or QSL route have yet been announced.

Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE PRINCIPALITY OF SEALAND

And finally this week, do you remember Sealand? That's the self-proclaimed principality that also once claimed to be a DXCC entity. Well its still there but changes are in the wind. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasik, K9BIK, takes a look back into recent history:

--

Sealand is a former United Kingdom anti-aircraft tower legally known as Roughs Tower. Its located in the North Sea some 7 nautical miles off the shore of Suffolk, England. In 1967 the tower was occupied by a retired army major named Paddy Roy Bates along with his family in 1967. On September 2nd of that year Major Bates declared the fort an independent sovereign state from the UK and renamed it Sealand. He went on to establish Sealand as a nation in 1975.

Sealand had its own constitution, flag, national anthem, stamps, passports and currency. There were even a few DXpeditions to Sealand. This included a operation by a group of German DX'ersin 1982 using Sealand's self proclaimed and unofficial callsign prefix of S-1-A. Later, in 2000 there was the Dutch-lead 1SLA1 operation, but neither of these was awarded DXCC status.

Now comes word that Major Bates passed away on October 9th, in a senior care home Essex England at the age of 91. This, after a long battle with Alzheimer's.

But the Sealand saga is far from over. His wife Joan is now expected to take over the rule of the self proclaimed nation. Also, with Sealand is

managed by the Bates family as if it were a recognised sovereign entity, and they are its hereditary royal rulers. Bates son is known as "His Royal Highness Prince Michael." He has also been referred to as the "Prince Regent" by the Bates family since 1999. In this role, he apparently serves as Sealand's acting "Head of State" and also its "Head of Government". Also, at a micro nations conference hosted by the University of Sunderland in 2004, Sealand was represented by Michael Bates' son James, who was referred to as "Prince Royal James".

Butr whomever takes on the leadership of Sealand, one thing is fairly certain. Mounting a DXpedition to Sealand in the hope of establisghing it as a new DXCC entity, woyuld likely be a very expensive waste of time.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasik, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

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According a Wikipedia, the Sealand News says that a movie about Sealand is currently in development and scheduled to be released in 2013. More about this interesting location is on-line at www.sealandgov.org and also at wikipedia.com. (OPDX, Wikipedia)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

Before we go, a quick word of congratulations to Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Butera-Howell who is now Heather Embee. Heather and her new husband Jason Embee were married last weekend in Pennsylvania. Please join with us in wishing Heather and Jason many, many years of happiness and all good things together.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in southern Mississippi, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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230. Tube 814 rf amplifier.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-21 23:10:40 UTC
From: lucianopep <lucistel@libero.it>
Message-ID: <ec350894-dde2-4164-a4bc-a12b2f88d7e9@googlegroups.com>
Source record: 399

Hello! I am looking for a pattern which uses the famous 814, as a couple, for a HF linear amplifier. Thank you for your help. Luciano

231. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-22 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1350885601@panix.com>
Source record: 400
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

232. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-22 06:05:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1350885900@panix.com>
Source record: 301
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

233. The ARRL Letter for October 25, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-25 21:02:47 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121025193215.880AC24B4F@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 302
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

```
**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

October 25, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- FCC News: FCC Seeks Comments on Proposed Changes to Amateur Licensing
Rules, Emission Types
- Public Service: Hurricane Sandy Now a Category 2 Storm
- Get Ready for the 7th Annual ARRL On-Line Auction
- On the Air: Fun and Excitement Fill the Airwaves for the 2012 ARRL
November CW Sweepstakes
- ARRL HQ: W1AW Receives Semi-Annual Antenna Inspection, New Antenna
for 160 Meters
- Nominations Now Open for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award
- Solar Update
- This Week in Radiosport

There will be no ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>
on Thursday, October 25. The Audio News will return on Thursday,
November 1.

==> FCC NEWS: FCC SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO AMATEUR
LICENSING RULES, EMISSION TYPES

Earlier this month, the FCC released
<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-change-amateur-radio-licensing-rules-a
llow-additional-emission-types>
a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM
<http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db1002/FCC-12-1
21A1.pdf>)
-- WT Docket No. 12-283 -- proposing to amend the Part 97 rules
governing the Amateur Radio Service. On October 24, a summary of the
NPRM was published in the Federal Register
<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/10/24/2012-26201/amateur-servi
ce-rules>
and the FCC is seeking comments on it.
```

Specifically, the Commission is proposing to modify the Amateur Radio Service rules to grant examination credit for expired and beyond-the-grace-period-for-renewal Amateur Radio operator licenses; to shorten the grace period during which an expired amateur license may be renewed; to revise the time a call sign is not available to the vanity call sign system correspondingly, and to reduce the number of volunteer examiners needed to administer an amateur license examination. The NPRM also asks for comment on amending the rules to permit remote test administration, and proposes to amend the Amateur Radio Service rules to allow amateur stations to transmit certain additional emission types.

Comments must be filed on or before December 24, 2012 (60 days after publication in the Federal Register); reply comments must be filed on or before January 22, 2013 (90 days after publication in the Federal Register). Instructions on how to file comments are listed beginning on page 12 of the NPRM.

==> PUBLIC SERVICE: HURRICANE SANDY NOW A CATEGORY 2 STORM

As Hurricane Sandy -- now a Category 2 storm -- heads toward the Bahamas, both the Hurricane Watch Net and the VoIP Hurricane Net are supporting WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center. As of 8 AM (EDT) on Thursday, October 25, Sandy was moving toward the north between the northeast coast of Cuba and the Central Bahamas (about 130 miles south of the Bahamas and 75 miles northeast of Cuba) with maximum sustained winds of 105 miles per hour. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/hurricane-sandy-now-a-category-2-storm>.

==> GET READY FOR THE 7TH ANNUAL ARRL ON-LINE AUCTION

The Seventh Annual ARRL On-Line Auction <http://www.arrl.org/auction> is now open for bidding! According to ARRL On-Line Auction Coordinator Lisa Tardette, KB1MOI, there is a large assortment of ARRL Product Review items, including an Elecraft KPA500 HF/6 meter power amplifier, an ICOM IC-7410 HF/6 meter transceiver, a Yaesu FT-450D HF 6 meter transceiver, a Kenwood TM-281A 2 meter FM transceiver and an MFJ-998 RT and MFJ-994BRT remote auto antenna tuner.

The ARRL On-Line Auction also features a wide assortment of books, including ARRL Handbooks from the 1920s and 1930s -- most notably, a first edition of the 1926 Radio Amateur's Handbook -- and a set of three first-day-of-issue covers of the 1964 5-cent stamp highlighting Amateur Radio (see an image of a stamp here <http://www.qsl.net/wj8c/>).

"Once again this year, bidders will find a large variety of product review equipment, vintage books, novelty items and a number of very special items that have been donated by the crew of the ABC Television's Last Man Standing, starring Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT," Tardette explained. "In order to place a bid, you must register on the ARRL On-Line Auction website. You may browse the website and scope out those 'must-have' items without being a

registered bidder, and you can register at any time during the auction. If you are interested in some great bargains -- and some great fun -- you really need to check out the ARRL On-Line Auction." The 2012 ARRL On-Line Auction runs through 11:45 PM EDT on October 31 (0345 UTC November 1). Contact Tardette via e-mail <ltardette@arrl.org> with any questions concerning the ARRL On-Line Auction.

==> ON THE AIR: FUN AND EXCITEMENT FILL THE AIRWAVES FOR THE 2012 ARRL NOVEMBER CW SWEEPSTAKES

Steeped in tradition and still as exciting as ever, the 79th Annual ARRL Sweepstakes offers US and Canadian operators a fun-filled contest opportunity again this fall. First up is CW Sweepstakes during the weekend of November 3-5. "You don't have to have a huge station with large antennas to have fun in Sweepstakes," explained ARRL Sweepstakes Manager Larry Hammel, K5OT. "Maybe you have 100 W and a backyard dipole or vertical. Or perhaps the challenge of a 5 W QRP effort hits your hot button this year. You will be amazed at the number of stations you can work as you trade exchanges all over the continent."

This year, with four new Canadian Sections, the November Sweepstakes will be a bit different: In August, the RAC split its Ontario Section into four new Sections: Ontario East (ONE), Ontario North (ONN), Ontario South (ONS) and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Contesters now need to work 83 sections to earn the coveted Clean Sweep. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fun-and-excitement-fill-the-airwaves-for-the-2012-arrl-november-cw-sweepstakes>.

==> ARRL HQ: W1AW RECEIVES SEMI-ANNUAL ANTENNA INSPECTION, NEW ANTENNA FOR 160 METERS

On October 24, Matt Strelow, KC1XX, and Andrew Toth of XX Towers came to Newington to inspect the antennas and towers at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, and W1HQ, the Laird Campbell Memorial HQ Operators Club. In addition to the annual autumn inspections, they also repaired some of the W1AW antennas.Strelow and Toth replaced the 160 meter dipole located atop the Rohn 65 (120 foot) tower. The antenna -- used for both station broadcasts and visitor operations -- was damaged in a windstorm a few weeks ago. "I'm happy that we now have a new 160 meter dipole," said W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. "I missed W1AW being active on 160 meters, as did other radio amateurs. The station's 1300 W 160 meter signal now has someplace to go." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/w1aw-receives-semi-annual-antenna-inspection-new-antenna-for-160-meters>.

==> NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE GEORGE HART DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Each year at its Annual Meeting in January, the ARRL Board of Directors bestows the George Hart Distinguished Service Award to a League member

whose service to the ARRL's Field Organization is of the most exemplary nature. This award is named in honor of George Hart, W1NJM, long-time Communications Manager at ARRL Headquarters and chief developer of the National Traffic System.

Selection criteria for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award include:

- Operating record with the National Traffic System, or
- Participation within the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), or
- Station appointments and/or leadership positions held within the Field Organization.

Nominations for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award shall be accepted from anyone and shall be submitted to the Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager at ARRL Headquarters by November 1. Nominations should document as thoroughly as possible the nominee's lifetime activities and achievements within the ARRL Field Organization. It is expected that nominated candidates will have 15 or more years of distinguished service. The Programs and Services Committee will serve as the Review Committee, with the Board of Directors making the final determination at its Annual Meeting in January. Recipients will be given an engraved plaque and cover letter, and will be profiled in QST <http://www.arrl.org/qst>.

Nominations for the 2013 George Hart Distinguished Service Award, including any related supporting material and letters of recommendation, may be e-mailed to ARRL Headquarters to the attention of ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N <nn1n@arrl.org>, or to ARRL Field and Public Service Team Supervisor Steve Ewald, WV1X <wv1x@arrl.org>. Nominations and supporting materials must be received no later than November 1, 2012 to be considered.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers for October 18-24 were down 1.7 points from the previous seven days, to 95.3, while the average daily solar flux rose 14.7 points to 143.9. Geomagnetic activity was quieter, with all daily planetary A index measures in the single digits. As of October 24, NOAA and the US Air Force are predicting the solar flux to be at 135 on October 25-26, 130 on October 27-29, 125 on October 30-November 1, 100 on November 2-3, then 105 and 110 on October 4-5, 115 on October 6-7, 120 on November 8-11, 125 on November 12-13, then peaking at 145 on November 18 and dropping back to 100 on November 29-30. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on October 25-November 7, then 10, 20 and 15 on November 8-10, 5 on November 11-17, 10 on November 18-19, and back down to 5 on November 20-December 4. On October 23, sunspot 1598 emitted an X-1 class solar flare. This region is still rotating into the most geoeffective position toward the center of the solar disc, relative to Earth. There is a chance of more solar flares in the next couple of days. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, October 26. For more information

concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information
Service Propagation page
<http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- October 26 -- NCCC Sprint
- October 27-28 -- CQ WW DX Contest (SSB)

Next week:

- November 2 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 3 -- IPARC Contest (CW)
- November 3-4 -- ARRL EME Contest <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>;
Ukrainian DX Contest
- November 3-5 -- ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)
<http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>
- November 4 -- IPARC Contest (SSB); High Speed Club CW Contest; DARC
10 Meter Digital Contest
- November 6 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest
-computer-expo-1>,
Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfes
t-computer-show'>,
Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery,
Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfest>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcation-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfest-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#!/edit-info-email_subscription
s>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store>
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choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

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<http://www.arrl.org/Users/edit#!/edit-info-email_subscriptions>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

234. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1837 - October 26 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-26 09:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121026090002.D0E0533C1C@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 303
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1837 - October 26 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1837 with a release date of October 26 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. New Zealand hams will have to wait a while longer to gain full access to 6 meters; Germany's national ham radio society says no to a new pan-European B-P-L standard; thethe Hurricane Watch Net activates for hurricane Sandy; G-R-E quits the scanner business and a well known British soprano will be the next space tourist to visit the International Space Station. Find out who on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1837 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: CLOSURE OF TV CHANNEL 1 AND ZL ACCESS TO 6 METERS UPDATE

Changes will be coming to the 6 meter band down-under, but not as quickly as some hams in New Zealand had hoped for. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, reports:

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Amateurs across New Zealand may have to wait a bit longer to get full access to the 6 meter band. As previously reported, 50 to 51 MHz down-under is to be returned to amateur radio once all Channel 1 television has ceased using the spectrum and the current management right for this band expires.

What may not be known by some hams is that the last New Zealand channel 1 television transmitter is not due to close down until November 2013. After that, the management right under which it operates does not expire until August 2015.

Because of this, the New Zealand national amateur radio society, NZART, is working with the nations Radio Spectrum Management on arrangements for the period between when all the Channel 1 transmitters are turned off and their management right expires. In the meantime any New Zealand amateur in an area where TV channel 1 is no longer operating can apply for a permit to operate on the band.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, down-under in Nelson, New Zealand

--

As we go to air, not exact date when all New Zealand hams will have 6 meter access is known. (NZART)

**

RADIO LAW: DARC TO OPPOSE NEWLY PROPOSED EUROPEAN PLT STANDARD

Germany's national amateur radio society, the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club, or DARC will be asking the Deutsche Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies to oppose a new pan-European draft Power Line Transmission standard. PLT is what Europe call Broadband over Powerline or BPL.

During its October 22nd meeting, the DARC Board discussed the pros and cons of the proposed draft standard. While it said that it recognizes the new draft provided for some non-binding commitments for notching out of certain frequencies in the amateur bands, it also noted that it fears the future ambitions of the manufacturers of other PLC products in the direction of higher limits for the emission of harmful electromagnetic or EMC interference. This could lead to a weakening of the previous limits in other European EMC standards.

To be clear, this new standard concerns the devices that people install in their homes to run data over their house wiring. It has nothing to do with PLC or BPL that is carried over the over company power networks. (Southgate, DJ0QN)

**

RADIO LAW: SARL TAKES UP ZONING REGULATIONS WITH THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN

Its not just hams in the United States that are having problems erecting towers and keeping them up. And a case in South Africa points graphically this out. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, is here with the details:

--

Recently South African Radio League President, Rassie Erasmus, ZS1YT and Legal advisor. Johan Marais, ZS1JM, met with a delegation of the Cape Town Metro Council. This, to intervene in a notice received by a society member stating that he requires approval in terms of the Environmental Act & City of Cape Town Zoning regulations for his antenna which is less than 15 meters in height.

It was quickly learned that the council had received a complaint from a neighbor, which was most probably RF related. Rather than investigate the matter the Council simply elected to notify the ham that his antenna has not been approved and that it intend taking steps to either have him remove the tower or to apply for the necessary permits.

But the South African Radio League delegation was right on top of this one. It pointed out that amateur radio antennas fewer than 15 meters

of are exempt under the provisions of the National Environmental Management Act of 1998.

Based on this it was agreed that the process will be suspended pending the Council consulting with its legal advisors. The South African Radio League will then be afforded further opportunities to discuss the issues once feedback has been received from the Council's legal department.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline. I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

The South African Radio League will be keeping the qorld of amateur radio up0dated on this one. (SARL)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HURRICANE WATCH NET ACTIVATED FOR HURRICANE SANDY

The United States-based Hurricane Watch Net has been activated for Hurricane Sandy. Net operations began at 11:00 UTC on Wednesday, October 24th on 14.325 MHz to observe and report conditions surrounding the storm to the National Hurricane Center.

Sandy is expected to develop into what forecasters are calling a volatile hurricane as tropical storm Sandy merges with a powerful cold front charging towards the East Coast late the weekend of October 27th and 28th. As Sandy progresses the Hurricane Watch Net will be looking for condition reports from stations located in the affected areas. Hams in the places affected by this storm should be prepared to operate from a place of safety.

Net organizers say that they appreciate the consideration of all amateur operators in keeping the frequency of 14.325 MHz clear, and listening for possible relays. Operation on lower frequencies such as 40 or 80 meters will be considered depending on propagation during evening and night hours.

For information on the storm and the Hurricane Watch Net, go to www.hwn.org on the World Wide Web. (HWN)

**

RESCUE RADIO: UK ESSEX COUNTY RAYNET CALLED OUT IN FLOOD WATCH

Ham radio is called out in the UK as rising waters along riverbanks put several towns on emergency alert.

The Radio Society of Great Britain reports that at 18:00 UTC on Sunday, October 14th, the Emergency Planning Officer from the Maldon District Council requested Essex RAYNET to be placed on standby. This in response to flood alerts issued by the Environment Agency.

At 20.00 members were mobilized and deployed to the riverbanks at Heybridge Basin, Fulbridge and the Hythe in Maldon. This was in preparation for the high tide and possible tidal surge due at quarter to one in the morning.

Thankfully, the high tide hit without any significant incident. RAYNET volunteers were able to stand down shortly afterward. More information is on the Web at www.essexraynet.co.uk. (GB2RS)

**

HAM RADIO NEAR SPACE: PICO HAM BALLOON MAKES TREK FROM UK TO SWEDEN

PicoAtlas VII, a single foil balloon launched by James Coxon, M6JCX, on Saturday, October 20th from Suffolk in the UK has landed some 1050 kilometers or 650 miles to the East in Sweden.

PicoAtlas VII carried a GPS receiver and a miniature transmitter running only 10 milliwatts output sending RTTY on 434.301 MHz USB. The telemetry data from the balloon transmitter could be decoded using the free software at dl-fldigi. This program can decode many different amateur radio digital modes and can be downloaded for Windows, Mac and Ubuntu Linux at tinyurl.com/8zlo437.

An increasing number of radio amateurs are experimenting with ultra light balloon payloads, typically weighing less than 100 grams. Balloons such as these do not go to high altitudes. Instead they float between 3,500 and 6,000 meters which roughly equates to 9000 to 20,000 feet for an extended period of time. During the 19 hour flight this balloon successfully crossed the North Sea before landing in central Sweden. We will have more ham radio space related news later on in this weeks report. (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO NEAR SPACE: MAY LAUNCH AND OCTOBER RECOVERY OF HIGH ALTITUDE BALLOON PAYLOAD

An amateur radio balloon project launched last May finally ended this month with the recovery of the payload.

Members of AMSAT-LU, had launched a high altitude balloon on 19th May from La Pampa, Argentina. The payload included a 70cm to 2m 4 watt FM repeater, live SSTV, an HF beacon and two video cameras. During the 4 hour flight, over 200 stations made contacts through the repeater.

Unfortunately, while the flight was deemed to be a complete success the balloon came down in an isolated and flooded area. It was finally recovered from the mud on October 6th by a 4 by 4 off-road adventure group.

The good news is that all flight data was retrieved. This included over 6 hours of video from the two cameras. Details can be found at www.uk.amsat.org. (GB2RS

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W1JLI Memorial repeater serving Walpole, Massachusetts.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: GRE QUITS THE SCANNER BUSINESS BUR ALINCO NOT AFFECTED

GRE, the radio manufacturer which also represents Alinco here in the United States, has ceased all manufacture of scanner radios. The good news is that Alinco product sales and service will continue. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, has the details:

--

The news was a bit of a shock to the GRE group in Belmont, California -word from Japan earlier this month that the GRE personnel in Asia and the United States were being dismissed and scanner operations were being discontinued.

It was October 16th when the official word was released by GRE-employed U.S. managers of the shutdown in Japan.

But there was a pledge to keep the California office open because of its distribution affiliation with Alinco.

Michael Herbert, WB6JKV, a service technician and engineer for GRE's Belmont office, officially confirmed for Amateur Radio Newsline that things are still go for Alinco.

"GRE America will continue to market, service and support Alinco's radio products without any interruption," Herbert says. "So, for us amateurs, it will be business as usual."

And, Herbert continues: "No worries for warranty repairs. We have a great parts supply. We have a direct line with the factory and they are really eager to go forward with us and proceed."

Herbert says he's not authorized to say much more.

However, he says GRE is waiting on Alinco's new SDR, 100 watt HF radio due for delivery by Christmas. And, is expecting to distribute the new 900 megahertz /220 megahertz mobile radio about Dayton time next May.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

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The bottom line. If you own or are planning to purchase an Alinco brand piece of radio gear you have nothing to worry about. However at

airtime the future of GRE manufactured scanner radios is unknown. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

RESCUE RADIO: ISABELLA COUNTY MICHIGAN WANTS RADIO AMATEURS

An Emergency Management Director in Michigan, is seeking the assistance of the local ham radio community. This to be ready to provide solid emergency communications assistance in time of crisis.

Isabella County's Marc Griffis is actively recruiting licensed ham radio operators to help out in a variety of situations including training exercises. According to Griffis, there are more than fifty ham radio operators in Isabella County and he wants those who are interested to attend a Community Emergency Response Team training meeting.

Griffis says there is a potential in Isabella County for emergency management to call upon those with expertise in ham radio operation, and he wants them to be prepared for any situation. Examples of the types of assistance Griffis is referring to include assisting in the coordination of search and rescue perimeters. Also, communications between shelters and in other situations where other forms of communication have failed.

Isabella County is a located in central Michigan. As of the 2000 census, the population was 63,351. Its county seat is Mt. Pleasant. (Michigan Morning Sun)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENSED IOWA BROADCASTER ISSUED $10000 NAL

It's rare that you hear of an unlicensed broadcaster in Iowa, but it apparently has happened. This with word that the FCC has issued a $10,000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Thomas Costa for allegedly operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 87.9 MHz in Iowa City. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

--

This past September 17th agents from the Enforcement Bureau's Kansas City Office used direction finding to locate the source of radio frequency transmissions on the frequency 87.9 MHz to a transmitting antenna mounted on a chimney of a residence in Iowa City. The agents determined that the signal exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 of the Commission's rules and therefore required a license. The Commission's records showed that no authorization was issued to anyone for operation of an FM broadcast station at or near this address.

On September 18th agents from the Kansas City Office again used direction finding and confirmed that the station was still in

operation. The agents, this time accompanied by the property owner, inspected the unlicensed station's antenna and transmitter. The latter was located in a locked basement room. It turned out that the station was automated with a computer providing audio to a non-certified FM transmitter. The property owner stated that one Thomas Costa rented the basement room housing the station.

Later that day, the agents interviewed Costa. At that time he admitted that he rented the basement room and installed the radio station equipment but denied operating it. Rather he claimed that several unnamed individuals owned the equipment and gave him rent money each month which he, in turn, gave to the property owner. Costa also asserted that the alleged operators of the station did not provide him with their names or contact information in order to protect him and them from the FCC. He also stated that he was told by the unnamed operators that he could expect the Commission to inspect the station at some point and order him to cease operation.

Now in issuing the $10,000 N-A-L the FCC says that the record evidence in this case is sufficient to establish that Costa violated Section 301 of the Communications Act. Also that Costa can be said to have "operated" the unlicensed radio station because the evidence shows that he exercised control over the general conduct or management of it despite his claim that other individuals, who he refused to identify, were actually the operators. In this regard, Costa admitted that he rented and paid the monthly rental for the locked room housing the unlicensed station, and that he installed the station equipment.

Further, during the interview with the FCC agents, Costa mentioned that he was warned about the unlawfulness of the operation by unnamed individuals, who told him that he could expect the Commission to inspect the station and order him to cease operations at some point. Assuming the statement to be true, it appears that, in spite of the warning, Costa nonetheless allowed the station to continue to operate in the basement room. The FCC says that these facts indicate that Costa consciously operated and/or otherwise was involved in the general conduct or management of the unauthorized station.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

Costa was given the customary 30 days to pay the proposed fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: BBG ACCUSES SYRIA OF JAMMING SATELLITE SIGNALS (Print version only)

The United States Broadcasting Board of Governors and several other international broadcasters believe jamming of their satellite signals

last week came from Syria.

According to an announcement from the board, the interference has disrupted satellite transmissions in Europe and the Middle East. Specifically, the jamming hit satellites operated by Eutelsat, a European satellite operator, and affecting TV and radio programs reaching millions of households.

The board noted that the jamming started when Eutelsat announced it would terminate transmission of 19 channels belonging to Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting. Several international broadcasters also criticized the jamming, citing disruption of broadcasts from Russia through Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East. Here in the United States, the Broadcasting Board of Governors said signals of Voice of America, Radio Free Europe and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks were affected.

According to the Broadcasting Board of Governors, an earlier round of jamming this month was traced directly to Iran. (RW)

**

RADIO ON THE WEB: SOUTHGATE NEWS OPENS AMATEUR RADIO TODAY DISCUSSION BOARD

Great Britain's Southgate Amateur Radio News has launched a new amateur radio forum discussion board. Called the Ham Radio Today the forum contains lots of amateur radio news stories, plus sections for special interest groups. While geared mainly toward Europe and IARU Region 1, the board offers subjects of interest to hams world-wide including specialty areas to discuss 5 MHz operation, ham radio satellites EME operations and reports from several of the worlds best known propagation experts. Registration is free and only takes a minute. You'll find the new forum board at www.hamradiotoday.com (Southgate)

**

RADIO EDUCATION: ARRL GRANT RETURNS HAM RADIO TO MISSOURI SCHOOL

Thanks to a dedicated teacher and a grant from the American Radio Relay League, ham radio is back at a suburban Saint Louis, Missouri school.

STL Today reports that a new amateur radio club has been created at St. Charles High School, in St. Charles County. The club was started by science teacher Ellen Zerr, KD0PES, after the ARRL recently awarded nearly $2,000 to the school. Zerr used the grant to buy radio gear and antennas for the station.

The last time the school had an active amateur radio club was way back in the 1960's. You can read the full story at tinyurl.com/new-missouri-club (STL Today)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ANOKA COUNTY ARC CELEBRATES THE HALLOWEEN CAPITOL OF THE WORLD (Print Version Only)

Turning to the social scene, since 1920 the City of Anoka, Minnesota, has hosted some major Halloween festivities, earning the reputation of "The Halloween Capitol of the World". To commemorate this years festivities the Anoka County Radio Club will operate a special event station W0YFZ from Anoka High School parking lot on Saturday, October 27th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. local time. Visitors are welcome to come observe the special event Haloween station. More about this operation is on the web at tinyurl.com/anoka-halloween-event (KB1UOG)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: 14 YEAR OLD MAKES DIGITAL DXCC

The ARRL report that 14 year old radio amateur Tom Jose, VU3TMO, has just achieved his Digital DXCC award.

First licensed when he was 13 years old in December of 2011, VU3TMO is a 3rd generation ham operator in his family along with his parents. VU3TMO is a member of India's National Institute of Amateur Radio and the Dayton Amateur Radio Association. He is reported to be one of the youngest hams in his nation. (ARRL, Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: ARRL MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER ALLEN PITTS, W1AGP, RETIRES

After more than eight years as the ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager, Allen Pitts, W1AGP, has retired.

During his tenure, Pitts was responsible for developing public relations campaigns that featured the many facets of the Amateur Radio Service. The first of these was the simple but very effective Hello Radio campaign in 2006 that highlighted the fun and friendships of ham radio. That was followed by Emergency Radio, which built on the ARRL and the Amateur Radio Service's response during Hurricane Katrina. Next was his We Do That - Radio in 2008 showcased the technologies used in Amateur Radio. Pitts rounded out his career by spearheading the 2011 with the Do It Yourself or DIY campaign aimed at recruiting members of the burgeoning maker and hacker community to expand their horizons through becoming amateur radio operators.

While W1AGP has retired from day to day work at ARRL headquarters, he has not severed his ties with the national society. The ARRL is currently seeking a new Media and Public Relations Manager. In the interim, Pitts has agreed to continue on a very limited part-time basis during the selection process to find a successor. He also hopes to be able to work as a consultant on the League's Centennial projects, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the ARRL. (ARRL)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: OPERATOR NEEDED FOR 2013 AMERICAN SAMOA DXPEDITION

Are you interested in going to American Samoa on a DXpedition? If yes, listen up.

Bill Worthman, N6MW, and Jim Colletto, N6TQ. will be active stroke KH8 from a hotel in Tutuila between March 19th and the 28th of next year. Their location on the island will be well south of the Pago Pago harbor area to avoid as much mountain low angle cut off as possible.

According to their website, they have an opening for one more operator to go along on this operation. For more details and updates, visit n6mw.jimdo.com on the World Wide Web. (OPDX)

**

WORLDBEAT: DARC SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR ANNUAL HORKHEIMER PRIZE

Nominations are being invited by the German national amateur radio society, the DARC, for the prestigious Horkheimer Prize. The prize consists of an etched glass trophy and a monetary prize for non-personal use. The money is to be spent for the promotion of amateur radio however the recipient chooses. The prize can be awarded to one or more persons or institutions.

Any member of an amateur radio society in the International Amateur Radio Union is eligible, and self proposals are permitted. Nominations must be submitted to DARC by March 28, 2013, and the prize itself will be awarded at the opening of next year's Ham Radio convention in Friedrichshafen. More information in the German language is on-line at www.darc.de (DARC, GB2RS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FUNCUBE-2 A STEP CLOSER TO LAUNCH

The highly publicized Funcube satellite has taken another step toward becoming a reality. This with work that AMSAT-UK has delivered a set of completed Funcube 2 subsystem boards to Clyde Space Ltd in Glasgow. The handover took place on October 19th. The boards represent the Funcube-2 subsystem that will become a part of the UKube-1 spacecraft.

Three circuit boards make up the spacecraft. One is for command, control and telemetry. An RF Board that houses the command receiver, telemetry transmitter and linear transponder and a third board contains

the 400 milliwatt VHF amplifier and sensors.

Funcube-2 will provide a 435 to 145 MHz linear transponder for amateur radio SSB and CW communications and telemetry for school students around the world. Its host, the UKube-1 spacecraft is expected to be launched on a Soyuz-2 launcher from the Baikonur Cosmodrome launch facility in Kazakhstan in March 2013. (AMSAT-UK)

**

RADIO FROM SPACE: NEW EXOPLANET DISCOVERED ONLY 24 TRILLION MILES AWAY

Scientists using visual and radio telescope data have discovered the closest planet outside our Solar System. One that is orbiting a sun-like star about 24 trillion miles away from Earth.

According to astronomers at the European Southern Observatory the so-called exoplanet has about the same mass as Earth but it circles its star much closer than Earth does the sun, The exoplanet which is described as a planet outside our Solar System is outside the "habitable zone" for possible life because of hot and rocky conditions Temperatures on its surface could reach some 2,200 degrees and the surface is likely to be lava.

Scientists discovered the planet while monitoring stars in Alpha Centauri, a neighboring star system, only about four light years away. That system is peppered with stars orbiting one another, making the hunt for planets difficult, astronomers explained.

This is now the closest of more than 840 confirmed exoplanets. This according to research published in the British science journal Nature. (Nature)

**

DX

In DX, DF7NX is currently operational from Bolivia as CP8MW. He is active on HF Bands mostly operating CW. QSL as directed on the air.

LU3XEM, LU3XEI, LU1XBF, LU5VAT and LU7DSY will be active from Penguin Island November 2nd to the 4th as LTZ0. They will be operational on 80 through 10 ethers using CW, SSB and PSK 31. QSL this operation via LU7DSY

DF7NX is currently operational from Bolivia as CP8MW. He is active on the High Frequency bands mostly using CW. QSL via his home call, either direct or via the bureau.

JR1MLT has been heard on the air from Singapore as 9V1KK. He is reportedly active on all of the High Frequency bands using various modes. QSL direct only via JH1ILX.

N5ZO will be active from Ascension Island through October 30th as ZD8O. He plans to operate the CQ WW DX SSB Contest in Single Operator

All Band category. If you make contact, QSL via OH0XX

ND9M will be active from Diego Garcia Island through November 4th under the callsign VQ92JC. He also plans to operate the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest while at that location. If you work him please QSL via home call.

Lastly, ZS3Oh is currently on the air from Botswana as A22LL. He is reported to be active on HF Bands mostly using CW. QSL via home call.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: BRITISH SOPRANO SARAH BRIGHTMAN TO BE THE NEXT VISITOR TO THE ISS

The British songstress who created the role of Christine Daae (pron "Die Aye") in Sir Andrew Lloyd Webbers musical stage classic The Phantom of the Opera will be the next space tourist to visit the International Space Station. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has the details:

--

On Wednesday, October 10th it was announced in Moscow that world famous soprano Sarah Brightman had passed the required mental and physical examinations to permit her fly to the ISS. And in a video of the press conference made public by the Russian Space Agency Roscosmos, and the singer herself, Brightman described how as a child she was inspired by the Apollo 11 landing on the moon.

--

Brightman: "When I look back, my minds eye brings me to a rush of images from all of the incredible things that I have been privileged to experience in my life. But if I keep tracking back, my thoughts eventually come to rest on a flickering TV screen in 1969. There as a small and incredulous child I watched a man bound gently from the steps of a rocket ship and land on the surface of the moon.

"This really was an adventure. It was something miraculous.

"For me it was an epiphany. From that moment I began looking into the future. I began to dream about what life might hold in store for me and of what I could accomplish."

--

During her comments, Brightman said the trip would serve as a way to promote environmental awareness and to encourage women's education by helping to close the gender gap in the sciences. For this she has called on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, better known as UNESCO, to join with her to make it happen:

--

Brightman: "There are two key areas that we have identified which unify my personal passions, UNESCO's objectives and my spaceflight. Both are inexplicably linked and both relate to issues of sustainability."

--

After completing an upcoming world tour to promote her new album appropriately called Dream Chaser, Brightman will undertake six months of training at Star City in Moscow in preparation for her mission to the International Space Station. Once on-orbit she is expected to take part in several educational ventures as just mentioned but it is not yet known if she will obtain an amateur radio license or has any plans to make any ham radio contacts from the ISS.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

This is not Sarah Brightman's first venture into the area of science education. Earlier this year in conjunction with Virgin Galactic she launched the Brightman STEM Scholarship program. STEM is an acronym for the words science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Her program is designed to help young women in the United States to pursue STEM education across their four year college careers.

(Roscosmos, Southgate, others)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Roscosmos, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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235. Re: Satellite tracking programs

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-27 13:15:43 UTC
From: Fred McKenzie <fmmck@aol.com>
Message-ID: <fmmck-D10645.19564426102012@5ad64b5e.bb.sky.com>
Source record: 304

In article <k585e5$jj4$1@dont-email.me>,
Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net> wrote:

> After several years of not-so-active activity, I'm wanting to get back
> into satellite communications. What are the commonly used programs for
> tracking satellites there now?

Jerry-

I met a guy at a recent Hamfest, who suggested a Macintosh program
called MacDoppler. See <http://www.dogparksoftware.com/MacDoppler.html>.

Last night at Ham club meeting, I was shown a program called PocketSat.
It is available for several devices. I think its price is a little
higher than other iPhone/iPad/Android Apps, but it might be worth it if
you have one of these devices. See <pocketsat.com>.

Fred
K4DII

236. Feeding a Folded Dipole

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-27 13:15:59 UTC
From: Tom Horne <hornetd@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <105006bb-41c5-4e7e-a08c-e3497c37898b@ib4g2000vbb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 305

I have a folded dipole coupled to the feed line with an Icon AH4 antenna coupler. That has worked rather well for me in my rather random pattern of operating. The folded Dipole is a Barker & Williamson BWD-90 from which I removed the Balun and the center resister. I then shunted the resisters previous location. I had been feeding the modified BWD-90 with window line from the terminals of the AH4 coupler so as to allow the antenna to remain more nearly flat. With the weight of the balun, the terminating resister, and the coax on the center of the antenna it drooped quite a bit. I took out the resister because so many people told me that I would never know if I was getting a decent signal out or just warming up the resister. If I should not have shunted out the resisters previous location I would appreciate not just "don't do that" buy why it is a bad idea.

My problem is that I would now like to use a Yaesu FT-1000 that a fellow club member has loaned me and I have no way of controlling the AH-4 because the adapter that I was using with my Yaesu FT-857D will not work with the Yaesu FT-1000. I am open to any suggestions providing that they can be done in a yard that allows me only a ninety foot span between supports. I suppose I could save up and buy a new coupler but I was hoping for something a little less costly.

Should I give up on using the modified BWD-90 for now and put up another antenna? I could buy a fan dipole I suppose but I need a way to feed it that does not require a heavy balun up at the feed point if possible.

K someone please
--
Tom W3TDH

237. Re: Feeding a Folded Dipole

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-10-27 13:45:07 UTC
From: Howard Lester <howardxtlester@verizon.net>
Message-ID: <k6gogt$5ad$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 306

"Tom Horne" wrote

> I am open to any suggestions
> providing that they can be done in a yard that allows me only a ninety
> foot span between supports. I suppose I could save up and buy a new
> coupler but I was hoping for something a little less costly.

I think the simplest solution, and an inexpensive one, is an ordinary "random length" dipole (in your case, 90 feet long) fed with 450 ohm (or 300 ohm) plastic window (aka ladder) line to a transmatch (aka antenna tuner) in the shack. With a 90 foot-long antenna you can work down to 80 meters on it. Since there are several variations on how to get the window line through the house wall (one of which includes two identical lengths of RG-8 coax), and there are numerous commercially available transmatches with a wide range of prices, you have many options that can work well for you. I use just such an arrangement, though my dipole (actually a somewhat inverted-V) is 140 feet long with an apex of 39 feet. It works great.

Howard N7SO in NY

238. Scotty, I need more power: 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-01 21:47:34 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <k6uh9m$ot2$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 307

It began at about Five-Thirty PM on Monday, while I was driving back from the grocery store with the vegetables my XYL asked me to pick up, and an extra five gallons of gas that I had decided to add to my reserves. The grocery store and the gas station were both almost deserted.

I had to stop at a "Detour" sign that hadn't been there a half-hour before, where a tree was down in the road. As I turned onto the side street, I saw an arc flash off to my right, so bright that it looked like God's own welding rod turning the twilight into day. It burned out after about thirty seconds, so I took the detour and proceeded down the road: as I got up by the flashpoint, I noticed smoke coming across the street, and I figured it was the remains of the tree that had caused the arc, but as I drove by it, checking again and again that there were no wires in my path, I realized that the the high-tension line was lying across someone's lawn, burning the grass and the tar in their driveway.

I reached for the two-meter rig, but the fire truck was coming over the hill as I did so, and I went on down the road. Less than two blocks later, just around the corner, there was another tree down, bending electric wires at a thirty degree angle, with two telephone poles cracking jokes about how sparks fly when they get close. For that one, I actually used the autopatch, and reassured the dispatcher that I was reporting a separate incident.

I got home, and explained the reasons that the power was now off, and went out to the shed and turned over the generator. I threw the switch, and told the XYL that she could use the top burners on the stove, but only two at a time, and we had spaghetti for dinner.

The only alarming event was when I heard a "tic-tic-tic-tic" sound that made me think my roof was leaking: after inspecting the ceiling in my wife's study, I realized that the sound was coming from her UPS unit, switching itself into and out of backup mode with every change in the generator's speed. I had, of course, shutdown the computers when the wind speed picked up.

After that, I told the XYL that I would turn off the generator to save gas as soon as the dishwasher was finished, but she persuaded me to leave it on while she watched some show about Ernest Hemingway on PBS. I spent the extra time writing emails, telling my telecom-digest.org readers that the mail queue might be slow for a couple of days. After that, I broke out the reserve "strike anywhere" matches, and put one pack next to each of the candles that adorn our tables and bathroom sink.

Then, after placing the flashlights just-so and checking the fuel level in the Coleman lantern, I powered down and threw the switch back to the

commercial mains, just in case the restoration took less time than I thought it would. Our emergancy light, which comes on automatically when power fails, was enough for my wife to sit in bed and read: everything was back to normal when I woke up the next morning.

I had set everything up in advance, and since I had bought a 5KW genset that would actually power most of my house, I didn't have to switch any wires around or worrying about tripping breakers if the heat came on at the same time as the stove. The generator cost $567.00, since it was a closeout model and Home Depot wanted it off their inventory: that was back in May. The 220V plug and "motor" cable had run about $70, but I didn't mind because it meant I wouldn't have to run extension cords or keep a window open. I was lucky to have a ten-gauge feeder already in place, going to an old "pool" shed that's no longer needed for the pool, but I had to sink two ground rods to keep the electrical inspector happy, each worth another sixty bucks. The chain, padlock, and extra alarm wires had added maybe fifty dollars more.

There's no moral to this story, except that it took a lot more work and expense and aggravation than I had expected: it left me wondering if it wouldn't have been easier to do without. I decided that I should just enjoy being dry and well fed and free of worries about Carbon Monoxide: UHT Milk on the shelf, a five pound bag of rice and cans of soup beside it just in case, and about twenty gallons of gasoline on hand that I will be pouring into our cars in the next few days. I was so prepared that I /wanted/ the power to fail.

My wife noticed my sense of self-satisfaction, and commented on it, but I reminded her that we had talked about the tradeoffs back in May: that the generator wasn't just to make me feel good, and that this had been an easy storm, and that the power had failed in warm weather, and that losing the food in the freezer or trying to flush a hot-water heating system or dealing with frozen pipes in Winter would have been a much more severe event.

I don't think she understood my explanation. Some things, you just have to live with.

73,

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

239. The ARRL Letter for November 1, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-01 22:04:18 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121101211753.29841279DB@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 308
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
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November 1, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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- Nominations Now Open for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award
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- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

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==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: AS HURRICANE SANDY WREAKS HAVOC ON EAST COAST,
HAMS HEED THE CALL TO HELP

Even though Hurricane Sandy was declared a post-tropical cyclone by
the time it made its final landfall -- just 5 miles southwest of
Atlantic City, New Jersey at about 8 PM EDT on Monday, October 29 --
the storm still had winds in excess of 80 miles per hour. Hams across
the region, from the Carolinas to Maine, responded to requests for
assistance and activated local nets, supported the Hurricane Watch
Net's and the VoIP Hurricane Net's operations, assisted their local and
state Emergency Operations Centers and provided assistance at shelters
and wherever needed. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/as-hurricane-sandy-wreaks-havoc-on-east-coast-hams-
heed-call-to-help>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: HAWAII HAMS ACTIVATE FOR TSUNAMI WARNING
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On Saturday, October 27, radio amateurs in Hawaii responded to a tsunami warning, providing valuable and timely information to emergency management officials. The tsunami was triggered by a magnitude 7.7 earthquake which struck at struck at 5:04 PM HST (0304 UTC on Sunday, October 28) in the Queen Charlotte Islands, located off the coast of British Columbia, Canada.

At 7:14 PM HST, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center sent out a tsunami warning and said that the tsunami had an estimated wave arrival time of 10:28 PM. After being notified, Hawaii State Civil Defense RACES Coordinator Ron Hashiro, AH6RH, began notifying Oahu leaders via cell phone while ARRL Hawaii Section Emergency Coordinator Kevin Bogan, AH6QO, began activating the ARES Emergency Coordinators on each island. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/hawaii-hams-activate-for-tsunami-warning>.

==> + ROBIN WALBRIDGE, KD4OHZ, MISSING AT SEA AFTER SINKING OF TALL SHIP BOUNTY; SHIP'S ELECTRICIAN DOUG FAUNT, N6TQS, RESCUED

Every DXer knows the story of the HMS Bounty and Pitcairn Island, VP6: In 1789, the HMS Bounty -- a small three-masted sailing vessel sent by Britain's Royal Navy to the Pacific on a supply expedition -- was roiled by tension between its crew and its captain, William Bligh. After landing in Tahiti and taking on a cargo of breadfruit, the Bounty set sail for the West Indies; it never reached that destination. Instead, Master's Mate Fletcher Christian led the men in a mutiny, eventually allowing Bligh and his loyalists to sail off in a longboat. After an arduous journey, they reached safety at the Dutch-owned port of Kupang. Christian and his followers ended up on Pitcairn Island where they burned the Bounty and settled on the island. Passing ships did not discover the enclave until after the turn of the century.

On Monday, October 29, a replica of the Bounty <http://www.tallshipbounty.org/> -- built in 1960 for a remake of the 1962 film Mutiny on the Bounty -- sank off the coast of North Carolina as Hurricane Sandy made its way toward New Jersey. Of its 16 crew members, 14 were rescued by the US Coast Guard. Bounty Captain Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, never made it to one of the two deployed life rafts and is presumed dead. Claudene Christian, who claimed to be a direct descendent of Fletcher Christian, was unresponsive and passed away at a North Carolina hospital on Monday evening.

Doug Faunt, N6TQS, of Oakland, California, was one of the 14 who was rescued by the Coast Guard; Faunt served as a deckhand and was also the ship's electrician. A noted DXer and ARRL Life Member, he was part of the FO0AAA DXpedition crew in 2000 to Clipperton Island. He was also a member of the VP6DIA DXpedition to Ducie Island, and in 2007, he was part of the DXpedition to Lakshadweep. According to Spud Roscoe, VE1BC, Faunt had satellite communications equipment and Winlink capabilities on board the Bounty, but he was not the ship's radio officer. "Sailing on replica ships was a hobby of Doug's," Roscoe told the ARRL. "He had previously sailed across the Great Australian Bight on a replica of the HMB Endeavour <http://www.anmm.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=1437>, Captain

Cook's ship. He was an able seaman of the watch." Roscoe was the radio officer on the replica Bounty for its original voyage to France in 1962.

Faunt told the ARRL that the Bounty crew tried various methods, including a satellite phone, to call for help, "but we got nothing when tried calling out on HF. We tried calling the Maritime Mobile Net, but nothing was out there. We had Winlink on the ship that we used for e-mail and accessing the Internet to post to blogs and to Facebook, and we finally found an e-mail address for the Coast Guard. As a last-ditch effort, we used Winlink to e-mail the Coast Guard for help. Within an hour, we heard a C-130 plane, and later, a helicopter overhead." According to Faunt, it was Walbridge, as master of the ship, who sent out the distress messages.

"I don't know how I made it off the ship," Faunt recalled. "I had finished serving a long watch, and then we started going down. I was exhausted. I had to swim to get to the life raft. The water was full of rigging, and here I am, in my Gumby suit, trying to swim. It was so difficult. While swimming to the raft, I came up for air and a spar was coming at me. I finally found a raft and tried to climb into it, but I almost didn't make it, tired as I was. Through the help of my shipmates who were already aboard the raft, I got on." The two life rafts were out about 100 miles from shore when they were rescued.

The vessel left Connecticut on Thursday, October 25 with a crew of 11 men and five women, ranging in age from 20-66. After being treated at a hospital in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Faunt arrived back home in California on Wednesday, October 31. "I'm looking for a new boat to sail and a DXpedition to go on," Faunt told the ARRL. "Ham radio got me into my position on the Bounty, and ham radio got me out alive!"

==> NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE GEORGE HART DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Each year at its Annual Meeting in January, the ARRL Board of Directors bestows the George Hart Distinguished Service Award to a League member whose service to the ARRL's Field Organization is of the most exemplary nature. This award is named in honor of George Hart, W1NJM, long-time Communications Manager at ARRL Headquarters and chief developer of the National Traffic System.

Selection criteria for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award include:

- Operating record with the National Traffic System, or
- Participation within the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), or
- Station appointments and/or leadership positions held within the Field Organization.

Nominations for the George Hart Distinguished Service Award shall be accepted from anyone and shall be submitted to the Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager at ARRL Headquarters by November 1.

Nominations should document as thoroughly as possible the nominee's lifetime activities and achievements within the ARRL Field Organization. It is expected that nominated candidates will have 15 or more years of distinguished service. The Programs and Services Committee will serve as the Review Committee, with the Board of Directors making the final determination at its Annual Meeting in January. Recipients will be given an engraved plaque and cover letter, and will be profiled in QST <http://www.arrl.org/qst>.

Nominations for the 2013 George Hart Distinguished Service Award, including any related supporting material and letters of recommendation, may be e-mailed to ARRL Headquarters to the attention of ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N <nn1n@arrl.org>, or to ARRL Field and Public Service Team Supervisor Steve Ewald, WV1X <wv1x@arrl.org>. Nominations and supporting materials must be received no later than November 1, 2012 to be considered.

==> ARRL INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations are open for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award. This award is conferred upon an amateur or amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established the annual prize to recognize those radio amateurs who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster. As one of the few telecommunication services that allow people throughout the world from all walks of life to meet and talk with each other, Amateur Radio spreads goodwill across political boundaries. The ARRL International Humanitarian Award recognizes the Amateur Radio Service's unique role in international communication and the assistance amateurs regularly provide to people in need. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-invites-nominations-for-2012-international-humanitarian-award>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity quieted this week, with the average daily sunspot numbers down nearly 37 points to 58.4 and the average daily solar flux declining 27 points to 116.9. The predicted solar flux values are 105 and 100 for November 1-2, 95 on November 3-4, 100 on November 5-6, 105 on November 7, 120 on November 8-11, 125 on November 12-13, 130 on November 14 and peaking at 135 on November 15-20. It then drops to a minimum of 100 on November 29-December 1, then back to a high of 135 by mid-December. The predicted planetary A index is 20, 10 and 8 on November 1-3, 5 on November 4-5, 7 on November 6-7, then 10, 20 and 15 on November 8-10, back down to 5 on November 11-December 4, and 10, 20 and 15 again on December 5-7. A coronal mass ejection (CMA) hit the Earth's magnetic field at 1530 UTC on October 31. This contributes to the prediction of a planetary A index of 20 on November 1. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, November 2. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page

<http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: JAMES KLITZING, W6PQL, WINS OCTOBER QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the October QST Cover Plaque award is James Klitzing, W6PQL, for his article "Solid State 1 kW Linear Amplifier for 2 Meters." Congratulations James! The QST Cover Plaque Award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the November issue today.

==> + 2012 ARRL FIELD DAY RESULTS NOW ONLINE

If you can't wait for your December issue of QST <http://www.arrl.org/qst> to arrive in the mail to see how you did in the 2012 ARRL Field Day, don't worry! The results -- including a copy of the QST article <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestResults/2012/2012-FD-QST.pdf> (with line scores) and a results database <http://www.arrl.org/results-database?event_id=37444> -- are now available on the ARRL website. Be sure to also check out the 101 comments in the Field Day Soapbox <http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox>. It's not too soon to start making plans for next year -- the 2013 ARRL Field Day is scheduled for June 22-23, 2013. Just a note: The results from Wyoming are missing in print edition of QST; they will appear in the digital edition of QST, as well as online.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- November 2 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 3 -- IPARC Contest (CW)
- November 3-4 -- ARRL EME Contest <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>; Ukrainian DX Contest
- November 3-5 -- ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW) <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>
- November 4 -- IPARC Contest (SSB); High Speed Club CW Contest; DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest
- November 6 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

Next week:

- November 9 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 10-11 -- Kentucky QSO Party; WAE DX Contest (RTTY); 10-10 International Fall Contest (Digital); JIDX Phone Contest; OK/OM DX Contest (CW)
- November 10-11 -- CQ-WE Contest
- November 11 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
- November 12 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint

- November 14-15 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test
- November 15 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- November 3-4 -- ARRL Georgia State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/georgia-state-convention-stone-mountain-hamfest-computer-expo-1>, Lawrenceville, Georgia
- November 4 -- ARRL Iowa Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/iowa-section-convention-41st-annual-drac-hamfest-computer-show'>, Davenport, Iowa
- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery, Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-computer-expo-1>, Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-bay-hamfest-2>, Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-1>, Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>, Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfest>, Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo, Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat

ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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240. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1838 - November 2 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-02 09:00:17 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121102090004.4AF7C33C45@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 309
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1838 - November 2 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1838 with a release date of November 2, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham radio responds to Hurricane Sandy and a Pacific Ocean Tsunami; a new video snowing A-P-R-S from the space station is made public, a record number of students take part in an ARISS contact and a look at the Ham Radio Salutes Hollywood operation from the historic C-B-S soundstage where it took place. All this and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1838 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

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RESCUE RADIO: HAM RADIO MEETS KILLER HURRICANE SANDY

As Hurricane Sandy made her way across the Caribbean and the up along the U.S. East Coast ham radio operators had been tracking the storms every move. When she made landfall on the New Jersey shore they were ready to respond. Mark Abramowicz, NT3V is here with whats known so far:

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To be sure, the hams who responded to Hurricane Sandy will never, ever forget the destructive power of a superstorm that - to this point - has been unmatched in modern history.

It was New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who the day following the storm striking along the state's barrier islands, summed up the grit and determination for the people of his state...

"We have a long road ahead of us but I have complete confidence we're going to come out of this better and stronger than before," Christie said. "This state is too tough to give in to this type of devastation."

And, in the immediate aftermath of the storm, radio operators in southern New Jersey were put to the test, especially in Atlantic and Ocean counties.

The first is home to Atlantic City, which ended up under water as the storm passed, and the second, home to Long Beach Island and other well-known seaside communities where homes were ripped apart and boats thrown into piles like toys in a child's messy play chest.

Southern New Jersey hams will remain on the job with relief coming into Atlantic County for shelters still being manned by Red Cross personnel.

John Zaruba, K2ZA, is ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator for Southern New Jersey,

Zaruba says hams went active Saturday morning - days before the storm arrived - and began moving equipment into position.

He says by Sunday night as the rain bands from Sandy starting closing in on New Jersey and tge wind began kicking up, operators were already out..

"There was a lot of good ground intelligence," Zaruba says. "You know where people were trying to get places and there was a lot of reporting of, 'Okay this road's flooded, you can't go here. You have to re-route and go this way.' So there was a lot of real-time information coming back that way."

Zaruba says the Red Cross was operational with shelters in-land, away from the coastal areas, before the storm hit...

"In some of the counties, seven or eight shelters actually operating," Zaruba says. "But as the storm passed through. They started consolidating things, getting people out that could go back to their homes and other people that needed more long-term sheltering. They started moving them into more consolidated shelter facilities."

At one point, Zaruba says there was a need for more equipment and section officials contacted ARRL headquarters and a response came quickly...

"We were able to get six 'Go Kits' sent down from the League to Ocean County and that went a long way toward easing their operational burden," Zaruba says.

As for the modes of communication, Zaruba says it was all voice...

"Primarily, we were using 2-meter FM," Zaruba says. "And, I've been a big proponent of using digital communications. But, here, again, we've got a bit of a way to go to get people focused in on that's an available tool in our tool kit and let's utilize it.

"Right now, most of the mindset revolves around voice communication."

Zaruba says hams in south Jersey are standing down, for the most part, and he's proud of their dedication and response...

"They did an outstanding job, to a person," Zaruba says. "All went above and beyond the call of duty. The folks in Ocean and Atlantic counties were pulling some brutal shifts."

And, Zaruba says, some of the volunteer radio operators also suffered some devastating losses themselves...

"Some hams that were talking about shore houses that have 20-25 inches of water in the bottom," Zaruba says. "And, granted those folks didn't sound real happy but as long as there were no lives lost, the house and the contents are all replaceable."

Now, on to New York, where Sandy socked the city hard.

Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, is ARRL section manager for New York/Long Island.

He says during the storm itself, operations were hunkering down like everyone else, but quick sprung into action once it passed.

"Despite the tremendous devastation that the city has faced, the role amateur radio played in the five boroughs was relatively small, "Lisenco says. "We manned the emergency operations center at the American Red Cross in mid-town Manhattan."

But Lisenco says the devastation is far worse outside the city and its environs...

"In Nassau Couny, the response has been rather large because a good portion of the southern part the county has seen complete devastation, primarily because they are very close to the water," Lisenco says. "The Red Cross has run a rather large sheltering operation in Nassau County. We've been providing communications for the shelters

"They've been running a resource net as well as a net for passing traffic back and forth between the shelters and to, of course, Red Cross headquarters in Nassau County."

Lisenco says the many hams responding to help faced some challenges even getting into position...

"The biggest problem I think we faced was the fact that there's these widespread power outages," Lisenco says. "We're talking about millions of people without power in the area. And, also what damage that was done with downed trees, power lines, a tremendous amount of sand washed up on shore, houses displaced, a large problem would then be in terms of transporting oneself to a location that they're supposed to be manning, such as a shelter.

"Even just driving around Brooklyn we have a lot of areas where they have no power. Lights are out. Driving, even during the day is somewhat tenuous. So imagine having to do that at night."

Lisenco says the effort in Nassau County remains very fluid and active and he expects emergency operations will continue for the coming days as we go to air on Friday, Nov. 2.

Lisenco and Zaruba from the southern New Jersey section agree on one thing.

It's important for all amateurs to realize the role they can play in their communities in times of disaster.

Lisenco sums it up...

"It's very easy for people to grow complacent over time when they feel their services aren't needed," Lisenco says. "But they need to keep in mind that emergencies happen at any point in tie, anywhere.

"And, they need to be involved at some level in the emergency communications aspect of amateur radio. Amateur radio is both a service and a hobby. And we can't lose sight of that. And, in order to participate in the hobby aspect, you have to give something back."

So, while New Jersey and New York have a long way to go in coping with the aftermath of Sandy, Lisenco and Zaruba say communities can rest assured amateur radio will be there when needed.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

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Obviously, reports are still coming in and it will be some time before we know the full extent of the work of radio amateurs in response to this event that's been called the perfect storm. More in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports.

(ARNewsline)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAWAII EMCOMM RADIO AMATEURS RESPOND TO TSUNAMI WARNING

Amateur radio operators in Hawaii responded to a tsunami warning on Saturday evening, October 27th. This by providing valuable information to emergency management officials after a magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck off the coast of British Columbia, Canada at 5:04 pm Hawaii Standard Tine.

At 7:14 pm, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center upgraded an earlier bulletin to a warning with an estimated wave arrival time of 10:28 pm. At this point key members of Hawaii's emergency communications ham radio network were alerted by an automated text message system. One of them was Ron Hashiro AH6RH, is the Hawaii State Civil Defense RACES Coordinator.

--

AH6RH: "With the estimated wave arrival time of 10:28 pm, we really had to hustle because now we were within the three hour time limit that we would normally sound sirens and of coarse all of that notification was subsequently delayed. The telephone alert process took 22 minutes and from there we had to mobilize and it took 40 minutes to get on site at the state EOC.

--

Also alerted were ARES Emergency Coordinators on each island that make up the State of Hawaii. This lead to a call-up of various ARES and RACES nets. Hams were also dispatched to keep an eye on ocean levels

and report back:

--

AH6RH: " We had Kalani Ku, WH6KX, on the north side of Maui at Kahului Harbor and Dave Garrison, AL4A, on the South side reporting ocean level changes. At 10:53 pm Kalani reported that the water was receding from Kahului Harbor and shortly thereafter Dave reported the same.

"For the next two hours WH6KX and AL4A passed timely reports of ocean level changes ranging from plus 2 feet to minus 3 feet below normal. The ocean level reports were received by hams at all the EOC's and passed on to their respective EOC operations."

--

Once the Tsunami arrival time was well past, a determination was made to downgrade the warning to an advisory effective at 12:54 am. Nets stood down at about 10 minutes later.

AH6RH says that the only major incident that took place came in a notice from the Hilo EOC. Hams there reported that the receding water in Hilo Bay caused the bottom of boats to hit the floor of the bay. (ARNewsline(tm), AH6RH)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WA4WPD repeater serving Rocky Mount North Carolina.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: SARL PRESENTS AMATEUR RADIO'S NEEDS IN THE MICROWAVE BANDS AT HEARING

The South African Radio League was to discuss amateur radio's needs for allocation in the 2.3; 3.5 and 5 GHz bands at a hearing with that nations telecommunications regulator held on November 1st and 2nd. The hearing dealt with the draft frequency migration regulation and frequency migration plans for this spectrum. Prior to the meeting the South African Radio League had put forward its requirements for allocations in these bands in line with the IARU Region 1 spectrum requirements for amateur radio use of these bands. Like many parts of the world, this region is also looking into ways to make more spectrum available to broadband and other emerging technologies. (SARL)

**

RESCUE RADIO: MOBILE WEATHER TRAINING AT GAREC 2012

A free session on the Mobile Emergency Weather Station is available to those who will be attending the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference being held in Malaysia from November 11th to the 14th. Presented by its inventor Gregory Lee, HS0ZHM, of the Rural Training Centre in Thailand, the session will first cover the Weather Observation Log form and then take the trainees through the device set-up and its operation.

The Mobile Emergency Weather Station device enables hams to quickly gather weather data in a reliable manner for them to be reported by radio. Its ultimate goal is to provide meaningful weather reports from a disaster zone. This, to help in making the multitude of decisions by relief authorities and also to improve helicopter flight operations and safety.

The Mobile Emergency Weather Station session will be on November 11th at the Melaka House, in Port Dickson. For more information contact 9W2PCK by e-mail to choysegt (at) gmail (dot) com (VK3PC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: SANTA CLARITA CALIFORNIA RESCUES STRANDED HIKER

A stranded hiker has been saved in California. On Sunday, October 28th, at approximately 1:15pm the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriffs Station Search and Rescue Team along with Los Angeles County Fire Department responded and rescued a 54-year-old female hiker from the narrows portion of Towsley Canyon.

When located, the hiker was suffering from heat exhaustion and dehydration. She was airlifted by a Los Angeles County Fire Department helicopter and brought to a safe landing zone where she was medically checked out by Search and Rescue team members, and fire department paramedics. The hiker was then released to her family.

At the time the incident occurred the team was helping out with the haunted jailhouse fundraiser. This by teaching children about rescues along with demonstrating some of the most common gear used during a rescue. When they received an emergency call regarding a stranded hiker they quickly decided how many members would deploy to Towsley Canyon and how many members would remain at the haunted jailhouse event.

The Santa Clarita Search and Rescue team is made up of highly trained individuals from all walks of life, several of whom are ham radio operators. Their backgrounds range from school teachers to contractors, to film directors and even rocket scientists. For further information please visit www.scvrescue.com (nixle.com)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC PROHIBITS ROBOCALLING TO PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINTS

The government has put in place some rules to prevent automated telemarketing devices from calling emergency service providers. Jeff

Clark, K8JAC, has the details:

--

Emergency Service providers are getting government protection from unwanted robocalls that can tie up their phone lines. This through the establishment a specialized Do-Not-Call registry for Public Safety Answering Points and prohibiting the use of robocalling equipment to contact registered Public Safety Answering Point phone numbers other than for an emergency purpose.

Public Safety Answering Points are typically 911 call centers that receive emergency calls and route them to emergency service personnel. By some estimates, hundreds or even thousands of unwanted robocalls are made to these centers each day, tying up public safety phone lines and diverting critical first responder resources away from the provision of emergency services.

Specifically, the new rules released on October 17th allow Public Safety Answering Points to upload any number associated with the provision of emergency services or communications with other public safety agencies onto a specialized Do-Not-Call registry. They also prohibit operators of rob calling equipment from using such equipment to contact any number on the registry except for an emergency purpose and adopt specific monetary penalties for contacting or disclosing numbers contained in the registry. In the case of violations prohibiting disclosure or dissemination of registered numbers, the new law provides for monetary penalties of up to $1,000,000 per incident.

The rules also address concerns voiced by the public safety community in comments to the FCC about the potential problems unwanted texts to Public Safety Answering Points may pose in the future. For violations of the prohibition on robocall texting numbers on the registry, the law provides for monetary penalties that are not less than $10,000 per call or text or more than $100,000 per call or text.

For the Amateur adio Newsline, I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC

--

For those that have never heard the term robocalling, those are the irritating automated telemarketing calls that seem to be growing in number each day. And in more and more instances the operators of these machines seem to be programming them to call back incessantly if you hang up and keep on doing so until you give some type of response. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: FBI AND STINGRAY VS PUBLIC RIGHT TO KNOW

Tracking cell phones by tricking them into operating on a bogus network is a law enforcement tactic shrouded in secrecy. Now the FBI is under pressure to release information about it-but the bureau doesn't want to

let go of 25,000 pages of documents on sophisticated cell surveillance technology.

In an Arizona court case last year it was made public that the FBI had used a cell-site simulator in order to track down a suspect. The portable equipment, sometimes described as either an I-M-S-I catcher or a Stingray, covertly sends out a signal that fools all phones within a specific area into connecting to a fake network. The spy tool can force targeted phones to release unique identity codes that can then be used to track a person's movements in real time.

But not everyone likes the idea of this type of law enforcement tool being used. Among them is the Electronic Privacy Information Center which is attempting to obtain internal FBI documents relating to the technology. In fact the Center is taking legal action to force the prompt disclosure of records concerning Stingray devices or other cell site simulator technologies. It alleges that the FBI has failed to comply with statutory deadlines by not handing them over quickly enough following a freedom of information request made last February.

For its part, the FBI says that it has found 25,000 pages of documents that relate to the request, about 6,000 of which are classified. Because of this the agency says that it may need up to three years to process the files before they can be released.

In light of the FCC's recent enforcement activities against cellular telephone jamming devices, it will be interesting to see if the regulatory agency can or will become involved in this controversial issue. (slate.com)

**

ENFORCEMENT: SATELLITE JAMMING TRACED TO SYRIA AND IRAN

According to European satellite operator Eutelsat, disruptions in satellite signals in the Middle East and Europe have been traced back to Syria and Iran. There has been speculation that the jamming is a reaction to changes in the regulations put forth by the International Telecommunications Union to comply with the European Union's increasingly tough sanctions on Iran.

The ITU altered its regulations at the World Radiocommunication Conference in Geneva after receiving complaints of repeated and deliberate interference in the reception of TV in Persian and Arabic. Because of these changes, Eutelsat no longer carries 19 radio and television channels broadcast by the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting.

The European Broadcasters Union has now responded to the information by condemning it. In a press statement it's Director Ingrid Deltenre said that access to information is a universal human right and an essential component for democracy. As such the E-B-U deplores this attack on media freedom.

For its part, the International Telecommunications Union says that these recent incidents are not the first time that there have been allegations of Iran blocking communications from the outside world. The latest wave of interference has affected numerous radio and TV broadcasters including the BBC, France 24, Deutsche Welle and the Voice of America. (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: M6GLD UNVEILS ISS APRS VIIDEO

Some names in the news. First up is Robert Broughton, M6GLD who has made available a new video demonstrating reception of amateur radio APRS signals from the International Space Station. The data shown in the clip is decoded using free online software and a soundcard connected from a receivers audio out to the computers audio in. For this demonstration the closest slant range to the I-S-S at zenith was around 1,350 miles line of sight with the space station transmitting on 145.825 Mhz. You can watch the video at tinyurl.com/iss-aprs-video (M6GLD)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: K6LCS RECEIVES SPECIAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Clint Bradford K6LCS of Jurupa Valley, California and his wife Karen have earned a special award from the Public Relations Society of America. This for their work in planning a space related educational event held back on April 19th.

Called "LIVE! . from outer space!" the operation gave students a chance to speak to an astronaut in the orbiting International Space Station." Some 120 students of Flabob Airport Preparatory Academy, more than 80 parents, community leaders and media representatives got to witness a live contact with the International Space Station. Flight Engineer Don Pettit was on the I-S-S to answer questions posed by some of the students via ham radio.

K6LCS initiated the event because of his volunteer position through Amateur Radio on the International Space Station or ARISS program which is allied to NASA's with Teaching from Space curriculum. The latter is available to any school that applies, but the typical wait-time from application to an actual contact with a member of the space station crew is three years.

According to K6LCS for the Flabob school contact it was 13 months of planning for 10 minutes of conversation. But adds Bradford, but, "oh, what a conversation!" (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: LEAGUE SEEKING NEW MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

The ARRL is currently looking to fill the position of Media and Public Relations Manager at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. This following the recent retirement of Allen Pitts, W1AGP, from that position.

The ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager is responsible for explaining the value of the amateur radio service to the media and the general public, directly and through a corps of volunteers. Outstanding communications skills and the ability to train and motivate volunteers is also required.

For more information on this position and how to apply please viait the news paes at www.arrl.org. (ARRL)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: LARGEST CONTACT EVER WITH THE ISS

The largest contact in the history of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program has taken place in Florida. This as Florida Science Museum station WS4FSM hosted the largest school contact ever with the ISS. Take a listen:

--

Actual contact audio

--

The contact took place on Tuesday, October 30th, at 15:58 UTC when most of Palm Beach County's 187,000 students were watching live as 10 students and 2 teachers made the historic contact. The actual call was from the Motorola Theater at the museum. Both a tower mounted tracking antenna and a mast mounted Eggbeater were loaned to the club by area hams for making this contact. Eleven students and two teachers already asked their questions of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Astronaut Akihiko Hoshide, KE5DNI. Hoshide who has been on the International Space Station since mid-July, was quick to provide answers.

--

Actual contact audio

--

The event was to be televised live by closed circuit system to classrooms in all the county schools and streamed on the web as well as

on the school system's educational channel and Comcast Cable in South Florida. The final audience was expected to be over 250,000 live viewers.

The West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Group sponsors the station at the South Florida Science Museum as part of a permanent amateur radio exhibit. Club members and other volunteer hams in the area staff the station and exhibit on weekends, for school tours during the week, and during summer science camps. More about the club is on-line at www.wpbarc.com. (Southgate, Palm Beach Post, AJ4XM)

**

WORLDBEAT: DENMARK SETS DIGITAL RADIO SWITCHOVER DATE

The Danish government's new media policy has defined 2019 as the year for the country's digital radio switchover. This providing that at least half of all radio listening in the country is digital by 2018.

Uffe Elbak, the Danish Culture minister stated that this move is a normal progression. He said that the world is digital and therefore it is a natural continuation of previous efforts and policy decisions in the area that we now will speed up the digitization of radio, just as we did with the TV a few years ago. Elbak said that this will be accomplished by continuing to expand the nations digital radio network, and establishing, albeit with conditions, a date for the switch-off of analog FM. By setting a date Elbak says that his nation is sending a clear signal to both the industry and the Danish radio listeners about where digitalization of broadcasting is headed.

According to other reports, the national single-frequency Digital Audio Broadcasting or DAB block used by the public service broadcaster D R Multiplex will be exchanged for two DAB regional frequency blocks now occupied by a single commercial multiplex. This will take place in 2013. All Danish DAB transmissions will also transition from the original DAB standard to the DAB+ standard. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: MULTIPLE COPIES OF RAC REPORT E-MAILED

Radio Amateurs of Canada says that there have been issues with multiple copies of its R-A-C Report unintentionally going out via e-mail. Chief Information and Technology Officer Paul Burggraaf, VO1PRB, says that the society is working to fix this problem before the next issue is sent out. (Radio Amateurs of Canada)

**

DX

IN DX, the March, 2013 DXpedition to Clipperton Island has received the callsign TX5K to be used during the operation. So far the team has 23 members and one space remains available for another operator,

scientist, or other supporter who wishes to join the DXpedition. More information is on-line at www.cordell.org/CI,

DL1LLL is currently operational portable Zed-S-7 from Antarctica on the High Frequency Bands. His location is the Neumeyer Emergency base. QSL via DL5EBE.

VK6LC will be active from Vietnam in November as XV1LC. He will be operational on the High Frequency Bands using CW and SSB only. QSL direct via VK6LC.

JA1PBV will be on the air from Mauritania as 5T5BV until November 10th. His activity has so far been on 30, 12 and 10 meters using CW and RTTY. QSL via JA1PBV.

JH5GHM is currently on the air stroke V26 from Antigua Island on the High Frequency bands only. No mention of modes or times on the air. QSL via his home call or electronically using Logbook of the World.

JA1PBV is currently active from Mauritania as 5T5BV. Listen out for him on the High Frequency bands operating mainly CW. QSL via home call

DL8NU will be active from Mahe Island in the Seychelles November 9th to the 24th as S79NU He will be operational on the High Frequency bands mostly on CW. QSL via home call

Lastly, UA4WHX is currently active stroke EX from Kyrgyzstan. Hes been reported being heard on many o the High Frequency bands. His QSL route is direct to his home callsign.

(Above from various DX news sources

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: HAM RADIO CELEBRATES HOLLYWOOD

And finally this week, Ham Radio Celebrates Hollywood was the title of an all-band multi mode operation from Stage 9 at CBS Studio Center in Los Angeles, California on Sunday, October 28th. Stage 9 is currently the home of the hit sitcom Last Man Standing which features ham radio as one of the shows themes. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, stopped by the operation and has this report:

--

The callsign of the operation was K6H which stood for King-6-Hollywood. And maybe you were one of the lucky ones to make contact with members of the southern California-based PAPA repeater system who sponsored and staffed this fun event:

--

Actual 40 meter QSO

--

That was just one of several stations that were up and running at K6H. And while the majority of operators came from the PAPA System, the idea for the event was that of John Amodeo, NN6JA, who happens to be the producer of Last Man Standing:

--

NN6JA: "I think it came about because a while ago I was asked to do a forum at Dayton by the ARRL to talk about ham radio and the way it's treated in the media. That set me off to thinking how ham radio is often portrayed either inaccurately or negatively.

"I wrote a forum and performed it in Dayton and it went out very well. But I could see that there was a bigger audience to reach with the whole concept of ham radio and Hollywood. And I thought that a special event radio station might be fun.

"We have the stage and we have a lot of ham radio equipment on the stage to do that. And I'm a member of several radio clubs; in particular the PAPA group here in Southern California, the Great South Bay Radio Club on Long Island, and a member of B.E.A.R.S. which is the Broadcast Engineers Radio Club who are connected to D.E.A.R.S. who are the Disney amateur radio guys and DARI which is an interconnect repeater system ob the East coast.

"So I thought to myself that if we could get the PAPA people on the West coast, the B.E.A.R.S. guys on the East coast and maybe throw in IRLP and Echolink, I could cover much of the country."

--

The K6H event had a lot of pre-publicity in the ham radio media. Even so, there are always bound to be last minute changes. So to cover this, Amodeo and the PAPA group turned to another kind of communications; the social media:

--

WA6ITF: ".You have an official tweeter?"

NN6JA: "We have an official tweeter on the show. Billy is our Assistant Production Coordinator and also a ham radio operator. As some of your fans might know we have twelve ham radio operators on staff and Billy's one of them. And he is over there tweeting and Facebook'ing about the event so that people can follow the frequencies we are broadcasting on."

--

Ham Radio Celebrates Hollywood was only on the air for a few hours. Even so the operators racked up a good number of contacts using traditional modes like SSB voice as well as emerging technology that included Echolink and IRLP. But perhaps the most important aspect of K6H is that it let the world of amateur radio know that the hams of Hollywood are also, thinking about the hobby and thinking about them as

well.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles. Don.

--

While a final QSO count is not available at airtime, there is no doubt that Ham Radio Celebrates Hollywood was a rousing success.

And less we forget, an interview with Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, is on this week's Rain Report. You can hear it or download it at www.therainreport.com. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in southern Mississippi saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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241. Re: Scotty, I need more power: 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-02 16:27:16 UTC
From: Channel Jumper <Channel.Jumper.ad90bda@radiobanter.com>
Message-ID: <Channel.Jumper.ad90bda@radiobanter.com>
Source record: 310

I have to ask if the Generator is a Generac.

If it is the brushless type Generac - you might want to invest in a extra capacitor for the generator.

I took a near lightning strike back in April - did damage to just the 3 six meter antenna's in the yard and didn't affect anything else except that the capacitor went on the generator and it refused to put out any power.

I took it to the local alternator shop, and instead of just selling me the part, they played dumb and charged me $120 for a simple $25.00 repair.

I am the same way about loosing power.
I like to turn on all the outside lights and the inside lights so the people sitting in the dark can see that I still have light.

My 4500 watt Honda uses about 5 gallons of gasoline every 8 hours.
So by your estimation - you had enough gasoline for about 24 hours of use.

You didn't say where you lived...

If it was New York City - then you probably would have needed to conserve as much as you could.

Other places other then West Virginia it wouldn't have been so bad.

The electric lines arcing tells me that they have a problem with the switch gear at the local sub station.
The power should have cycled 3 times in about a second and then shut off.

That is about standard for new switch gear made today.
Siemens, ABB , ARRIVA etc...

--
Channel Jumper

242. Re: Scotty, I need more power: 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-03 05:45:21 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <k728ls$240$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 311

On 11/2/2012 12:27 PM, Channel Jumper wrote:
> I have to ask if the Generator is a Generac.
>
> If it is the brushless type Generac - you might want to invest in a
> extra capacitor for the generator.

It's a Briggs and Stratton unit.

> I took a near lightning strike back in April - did damage to just the 3
> six meter antenna's in the yard and didn't affect anything else except
> that the capacitor went on the generator and it refused to put out any
> power.
>
> I took it to the local alternator shop, and instead of just selling me
> the part, they played dumb and charged me $120 for a simple $25.00
> repair.

Sorry to hear it. I suggest you tell the owner that he'll never see you again, and send him copies of receipts from other businesses that you've dealt with. There are too many businessmen who feel that they can gouge their customers and who think nobody keeps track.

>
> I am the same way about loosing power.
> I like to turn on all the outside lights and the inside lights so the
> people sitting in the dark can see that I still have light.

Well, there's a /little/ bit of that in me, but I was compensating on Monday night: I kept the outside lights off and made sure that the shades were down, so that the one or two inside lights looked like we had a lantern or candles going.

I don't worry about my neighbors, whom I know, but about someone passing by that succumbs to a momentary lapse of judgement.

> My 4500 watt Honda uses about 5 gallons of gasoline every 8 hours.
> So by your estimation - you had enough gasoline for about 24 hours of
> use.

Given the forecast temperatures, I was confident that I could go for three days with just the refrigerator and occasional cooking. Counting the generator tank, which holds 12 gallons, and the extra ten I had in cans, plus the gas tanks in the cars, I could have gone for a week if I used the generator about six hours per day, off and on.

> You didn't say where you lived...

In the Boston, Massachusetts area, about halfway between Boston and
Providence, Rhode Island.

[snip]

> The electric lines arcing tells me that they have a problem with the
> switch gear at the local sub station. The power should have cycled 3
> times in about a second and then shut off.
>
> That is about standard for new switch gear made today.
> Siemens, ABB , ARRIVA etc...

After a big storm a few years back, we had crews from Hydro Quebec in
this area helping with reconstruction. All the Quï¿½bï¿½cois were astonished
at the age and inefficiency of the electric plant in my area: I guess
when you depend on water to make electricity, you find ways to make
every drop count.

73,

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

243. Re: Scotty, I need more power: 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-03 16:31:05 UTC
From: John Davis <wa8yxm@gmail.invalid.com>
Message-ID: <k737hjlhh1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 312

On 11/3/2012 1:45 AM, Bill Horne wrote:
> On 11/2/2012 12:27 PM, Channel Jumper wrote:
>> I have to ask if the Generator is a Generac.
>>
>> If it is the brushless type Generac - you might want to invest in a
>> extra capacitor for the generator.
>
> It's a Briggs and Stratton unit.

IN the 5W size Briggs & Stratton and Genrac are ... Different paint jobs (nothing more) IN fact if you contact Genrac, for customer support on a small portable type Genrac, the reply comes from Briggs & Strattion.. Mine is a Genrac 1KW, with legs, I'd love to identify the legs so I could get the generator back and send the legs to where they need to spend some quality time.

My other genrator is a Onan 5,5KW, it runs everything in the motor home with enough left over for a couple of trailers. But we cook with GAS when we do that. That puppy burns about a gallon an hour, but can use up to 3/4 of the fuel tank on the house, that's 70 gallons so over fifty hours of power if the tank is full,, When I had a sticks and bricks, I only used about 3KW to power the house during a power fail. LIke you I had not one, but several switches.

I did not worry about CO still do not, the Motor home was about 100 feet from the house (Well the generator) so that was safe, and in the motor home itself I use a Gen-turi exhaust extension to get the exhaust gasses, CO included, up over the roof where they can just keep goign UP. WOrks great.

--
Nothing adds Excitement like something that is none of your business.
Remove the invalid part to email me.

244. Re: Scotty, I need more power: 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-04 03:05:16 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <k74bmddjs1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 313

On 11/3/2012 12:31 PM, John Davis wrote:

> I did not worry about CO still do not, the Motor home was about 100 feet
> from the house (Well the generator) so that was safe, and in the motor
> home itself I use a Gen-turi exhaust extension to get the exhaust
> gasses, CO included, up over the roof where they can just keep goign UP.
> WOrks great.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is one of those things that has to be dealt with
according to the worst possible outcome: dead bodies. I'm not an expert,
and I've taken my share of chances, but I don't run generators next to
open windows or inside garages.

I have a "Catalytic" heater that I used to take on camping trips: it
runs on Naphtha and throws a *LOT* of heat very quickly. I always insist
on keeping a window open and a door ajar when I've got it going, and I
NEVER keep it running while I'm asleep.

Now, you might wonder why I tell you all this. Frankly, it's because I
feel like an old fuddy-duddy every time I play it safe, and I wonder if
it's all hype put out by the insurance companies.

Still, I take the precautions. Until someone convinces me otherwise,
when it comes to Carbon Monoxide, I'm a live coward.

73,

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

245. FCC Daily Digest 11/05/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-05 18:09:09 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524790-2012.11.05-12.31.01--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 314
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 212 November 0
5, 2012

[...]

PETITION FOR RULE CHANGES IN 47 CFR PART 97.219, FILED FEBRUARY 3, 2012.
Dimissed the Petition for Rule Changes by LETTER. (DA No. 12-1772). WTB
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1772A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1772A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1772A1.txt

[...]

246. Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-06 03:31:33 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-08E318.19080905112012@nntp.aioe.org>
Source record: 315

I haven't heard any ARES activity related to the hurricane. Were there any HF nets? Is there any activity coming out of the areas that are still without power? Does ARES still exist, other than on paper?

--
Klystron

247. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-06 13:04:06 UTC
From: Patty Winter <patty1@wintertime.com>
Message-ID: <50989486$0$76937$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 316

In article <xxx-08E318.19080905112012@nntp.aioe.org>,
Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:
> I haven't heard any ARES activity related to the hurricane. Were
>there any HF nets? Is there any activity coming out of the areas that
>are still without power? Does ARES still exist, other than on paper?

I don't know what operations might still be going on, but there
were definitely ARES/RACES callouts last week:

http://www.arrl.org/news/as-hurricane-sandy-wreaks-havoc-on-east-coast-hams-heed-call-to-help

There was an ARES booth at the recent ARRL National Convention
in Santa Clara.

Patty N6BIS

248. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-06 19:03:16 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <avdi98950h30p0oikstg5vsbhaj7kfjetq@4ax.com>
Source record: 317

On Mon, 5 Nov 2012 22:31:33 EST, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> I haven't heard any ARES activity related to the hurricane. Were
>there any HF nets? Is there any activity coming out of the areas that
>are still without power? Does ARES still exist, other than on paper?

I don't have any details about ARES activity in Hurricane Sandy. But I suspect that ARES/RACES helped out. You should see some info on the ARRL web site as soon as they recover from the hurricane.

ARES is alive and well in my part of the U.S.: Nevada. In my town of Pahrump, NV (60 miles west of las Vegas), our ARES group is active with about 25 members (out of 350 licensed hams in a town of 35,000 population). We meet once a month, have a weekly 2-meter net, and have several drills and public assistance events (parades, races, etc.) each year. We work closely with Nye County Emergency Management Services. We use their building for meetings and training as well as for VE exams. The county purchased HF, VHF and UHF ham gear complete with antennas for use in their buildings in Pahrump, Beatty and Tonopah.

Dick Grady, AC7EL
To respond to me privately, email to:
<My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

249. 30 Years Ago: Reagan signs Goldwater RFI Bill

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-07 16:13:42 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <5099b19f$0$18290$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 318
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

This is from a web-site that is replaying Usenet, and net.ham-radio from
30 years ago (currently late 1982). The site is:

http://www.olduse.net

If you prefer to use your own newsreader, the site also supports an NNTP
connection at:

nntp.olduse.net:119

>From: karn <utzoo!decvax!harpo!npoiv!alice!mhtsa!eagle!karn>
>Subject: Reagan signs RFI bill
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Wed Sep 15 00:07:21 1982

President Reagan has signed the bill authorizing the FCC to impose RFI
immunity requirements on TV receiver manufacturers, to allow amateurs to
assist employees of the FCC in policing the airwaves and administering
license exams, authorizing a three-year test during which members of the
FCC may accept travel reimbursements from industry groups [I assume this
covers paying an FCC engineer's salary to make a licensing trip to a
hamfest -PRK] and to allow the FCC to use lotteries to award various
licenses.

The new law also allows the FCC to stop issuing individual CB licenses
to consumers. This doesn't mean the end of CB radio; it just means that
a formal license isn't required. They expect to save $400,000 on
license processing.

This is very good news for amateur radio. I am waiting to see if
there'll be any effect on local skirmishes such as the Burbank, Illinois
(I wrote MY letter, did you?) RFI ordinance.

Phil Karn, KA9Q

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlCZsXkACgkQ6Pj0az779o74FQCgsaPon+/9kCR0YRk2FnxxNjnj
63EAnRFNVXTarYfmtp77ZrBQHy8G2akv
=KyUX
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

250. 30 Years Ago: 10 MHz Amateur Band Opened

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-07 16:14:36 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <5099b20c$0$18327$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 319
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.amateur.policy

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

This is from a web-site that is replaying Usenet, including
net.ham-radio, from 30 years ago (currently late 1982). The site is:

http://www.olduse.net

If you prefer to use your own newsreader, the site also supports an NNTP
connection at:

nntp.olduse.net:119

>From: wheatley <utzoo!decvax!harpo!ihps3!ixn5c!inuxc!wheatley>
>Subject: 10 MHz (30 Meter band) open????
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Fri Oct 29 08:46:13 1982

I heard on the air that the FCC authorized amateur use of the 10 MHz
band yesterday. Does anyone have any official info on this??? What
frequencies, what modes, etc. Is it really open, or were there just
a bunch of non-law abiding hams on there last night????

MOST OF ALL, does it count in the CQWW contest this weekend???

Tnx, steve, wn8gue, inuxc!wheatley

>From: wheatley <utzoo!decvax!harpo!ihps3!ixn5c!inuxc!wheatley>
>Subject: ARRL DX BULLETIN-Including 10 MHz announcement
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Fri Oct 29 08:48:50 1982

_S_o_m_a_l_i_.

DJ6SI/6O will be on for one week, cw only.

_S_v_a_l_b_a_r_d_.

JW5NM is active on 7005 kHz at 0300Z. QSL to LA5NM.

_J_u_a_n__F_e_r_n_a_n_d_e_z_.

WB6WOD/CE0/Z will be very active on all bands for two weeks.

_C_o_c_o_s__K_e_e_l_i_n_g__I_s_l_a_n_d_.

VK9YI has been active on 10 and 20 meters. No specific
frequencies.

_D_j_i_b_o_u_t_i_.

Lloyd and Iris Colvin will be signing J20/DU through the end of the month. QSL via Yasme.

_C_y_p_r_u_s_.

DL0/HSC/5B4 will be on for two weeks, 160 through 10 meters. QSLs go to DK8ZH.

_F_r_a_n_z__J_o_s_e_f__L_a_n_d_.

UA1PGO may be found between 14200 and 14210 kHz around 1300Z. QSL via UK3SAB.

_R_o_d_r_i_g_u_e_s__I_s_l_a_n_d_.

DL9EAJ/3B9 is on 28550 kHz for about three hours daily beginning around 1100Z. QSL to DL0/LH.

_C_o_m_o_r_o_s_.

D68AM shows up in the DK2OC net at 1200Z. WB2OHD handles the QSLs.

_S_a_u_d_i__A_r_a_b_i_a_.

HZ1AB is active on 80 and 160 meters on Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning at 0200Z on 3505 and 1827 kHz.

_B_e_l_i_z_e_.

N6ADI and WA6VNR will be active as V3DX and V3CQ through November 3. They will be on cw and ssb, 160 through 10 meters. N6ADI will handle the QSLs.

_S_y_r_i_a_.

The Technical Institute of Radio will celebrate 35 years of amateur radio in Syria with 6C35A, 6C35M, 6C35N, and 6C35O operating 80 through 10 meters, ssb only, between 0300Z December 25 and 1300Z December 26 and between 0300Z December 30 and 0800Z December 31.

_C_Q__W_W__P_h_o_n_e__C_o_n_t_e_s_t_.

Some of the many prefixes expected to be active are PJ9, PJ5, ZF2, HC8, HH2, CE0/Z, CN, CT2, FO0/, OH0/, PJ7, UF6, UG6, FM0/, V3, and VP5. Many choice stations plan to include 160 meters in their operations.

_N_e_w__B_a_n_d_.

For those who haven't heard, 30 meters is now open to U.S. amateurs. Frequencies are 10.1 to 10.109 and 10.115 to 10.150 MHz. Maximum power input is 250 watts on cw and rtty only. Enjoy.

>From: wheatley <utzoo!decvax!harpo!ihps3!ixn5c!inuxc!wheatley>
>Subject: 10 MHz band
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Fri Oct 29 08:52:04 1982

Tnx to k2ph, I received the ARRL DX INFO just after I posted my query.
I also forgot to credit k2ph for this column, I just posted it. Now, the
real question, what about the contest this weekend?????

CU on 30 METERS!!!!!!!!! (FINALLY!!!!!!!!!!!)

steve, wn8gue inuxc!wheatley

>From: wheatley <utzoo!decvax!harpo!ihps3!ixn5c!inuxc!wheatley>
>Subject: CQWW test on 30 Meters
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Fri Oct 29 09:16:18 1982

WRONG WRONG WRONG, cant operate the contest on 30 Meters this weekend as
it is CW es RTTY only. My mistake. Now, for the real question, what about
the CQWW CW contest on turkey weekend (Nov 27-28)

steve, wn8gue, inuxc!wheatley

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlCZsdwACgkQ6Pj0az779o4kBQCgymcjT4fDsIhAZI8inWKxx+EQ
rwUAn3Xh7v1Le74blDKquHdMyOZFVvB/
=IVZc
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

251. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-07 16:15:07 UTC
From: Channel Jumper <Channel.Jumper.adfa358@radiobanter.com>
Message-ID: <Channel.Jumper.adfa358@radiobanter.com>
Source record: 320

If you do a internet search - you will find that ARES did nets on 20 meters, 40 meters and 80 meters.

The local ARES also did nets on 2 meters.

The problem with ARES is that they don't do much when there is not a storm and most of the people who belongs to ARES is old and they do not want to do much to help people besides talk on the radio.

Unless there is a viable group of ARES members that can be deployed on a moments notice - they are of no use to anyone when the call goes out.

And with the general mindset - most Amateur Radio Operators - at least a majority of them only has a Technician Class License, hence they cannot participate in ARES activities.

Most VE's gives the Technician Class License exam and then hangs the new ham out to dry.
The new ham - usually is cheap and only buys a cheap walkie talkie and then they wonder why no one wants to talk to them, or why their walkie talkie is no good in a disaster when they cannot talk to the local repeater - because it is either gone, or the power doesn't work and the batteries went dead or the generator does not work.

What we need to do is impress upon the clubs more activities which involves the new hams and trying to get them to upgrade to general class and trying to get them to purchase HF radios and resonant antenna's...

That is the other beef - if all you have is a G5RV and the net is up on 80 meters - you can't talk to anyone.
I hear the same innane comments all the time about how I have a antenna tuner and it can tune my antenna up so I can talk on other bands with my G5RV.

The problem is - it is not resonant - hence it doesn't listen very well.
Unless the other peoples signals are booming into your receive - the G5RV does no good on other bands... Even the MFJ 949 manual warns the user about trying to use the G5RV on 40 or 10 meters.... But no one listens - because of the CB'r attitude..

Maybe this is why no one knows anything about ARES in your local area.

In western Pennsylvania there was two nets,, one was digital and the other was phone on 80 meters..
When the one operator got tired of running the net - he just quit AB3ER was his call sign.

Some people moved down to 40 meters...

The problem is - in New York City - there is not a lot of room for someone to put up a 80 meter dipole to operate and they still have some phone and some cell phone service and people are not crying for help.

The ARES would be deployed via the American Red Cross, along with others using the SATERN net and the Salvation army..

--
Channel Jumper

252. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-07 23:52:04 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <509ae786$0$18369$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 321

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <Channel.Jumper.adfa358@radiobanter.com> Channel Jumper
<Channel.Jumper.adfa358@radiobanter.com> writes:

[...]

>And with the general mindset - most Amateur Radio Operators - at least a
>majority of them only has a Technician Class License, hence they cannot
>participate in ARES activities.

[...]

A General-class or higher license is not required for ARES, either
nationally:

"Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other
local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in
ARES."

(http://www.arrl.org/ares)

or any local ARES organization I've ever joined. Most local ARES
organizations make extensive use of Technician-class licensees and
repeaters. Local repeaters seem to be a bit more survivable than your
experiences suggest. Even if repeaters are somehow not available,
point-to-point communications with directional antennas and/or
higher-power radios can be used successfully in an emergency.

If you don't have equipment beyond basics like an HT or mobile VHF/UHF
rig, opportunities to staff positions at hospitals or Emergency
Operations Centers (EOC's) are also available. Owning equipment capable
of operating under emergency power is desired, but not required, to
participate in ARES.

Local ARES groups I have joined welcome all sincerely interested
amateurs, and if you show up consistently to meetings, classes, and
exercises, you will get meaningful training. And day-to-day
participation isn't just practice. Weather spotting, siren testing, and
support for public events occurs many times a year with most local ARES
groups. As the quote attributed to Woody Allen says, "80 percent of
success is just showing up." So, if you want to help make ARES succeed,
please consider showing up.

(73, Paul, K3FU)

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlCa50sACgkQ6Pj0az779o6XPQCdGayIaJJZFvZ1n6bhw7IT2RSF
1c4AniJ0WIX5bWnV+OtO0t4l3AyNcq62
=aXev
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

253. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-08 00:40:25 UTC
From: someone@somewhere.com
Message-ID: <vsrl98l06epdsnjv3n87pok4lt70gvi6an@4ax.com>
Source record: 322

On Wed, 7 Nov 2012 11:15:07 EST, Channel Jumper
<Channel.Jumper.adfa358@radiobanter.com> wrote:

>If you do a internet search - you will find that ARES did nets on 20
>meters, 40 meters and 80 meters.
>
>The local ARES also did nets on 2 meters.
>
>The problem with ARES is that they don't do much when there is not a
>storm and most of the people who belongs to ARES is old and they do not
>want to do much to help people besides talk on the radio.

Talking on the radio passing messages IS their job in an emergency.
And this IS helping people.

>Unless there is a viable group of ARES members that can be deployed on a
>moments notice - they are of no use to anyone when the call goes out.

Agreed. But I believe that most ARES units are able to be deployed at
amoments notice. We in Pahrump, NV can, and have been, deployed at a
moments notice.

>And with the general mindset - most Amateur Radio Operators - at least a
>majority of them only has a Technician Class License, hence they cannot
>participate in ARES activities.

A technician license is all you need to join ARES and to be effective.
See http://www.arrl.org/ares Quoting from this page, "Every
licensed amateur ... is eligible to apply for membership in ARES."

There's plenty of need for VHF/UHF communications in an emergency. Not
everything happens at HF. Besides, in a localized disaster, VHF/UHF
is all you need.

>Most VE's gives the Technician Class License exam and then hangs the new
>ham out to dry.

The Pahrump VE Team does not do that. To every exam candidate,
whether they pass or fail, we pass out the following flyer:
http://www.ac7el.org/Congrats_What_Now.doc
One side says that we know that you will have many questions and we
are available to help, both in helping you decide what equipment to
buy or build, and in organizing an antenna-raising party. We list
names and phone numbers of ARES members who will help newbies. On the
back of the flyer is an explanation of our ARES organization and an
invitation to join us.

I posted this file to the usve group on Yahoo Groups, which is
restricted to VEs in the USA. I got many replies thanking me and
saying that they will adapt the flyer to their own location.

Dick Grady, AC7EL
To respond to me privately, email to:
<My Call> at <My Call> dot <org>

254. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-08 00:40:34 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <vfarm9-a5n.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 323

In article <509ae786$0$18369$540ea2cf@novia.net>,
Paul W. Schleck <pschleck@oasis.novia.net> wrote:

>In <Channel.Jumper.adfa358@radiobanter.com> Channel Jumper
><Channel.Jumper.adfa358@radiobanter.com> writes:
>
> [...]
>
>>And with the general mindset - most Amateur Radio Operators - at least a
>>majority of them only has a Technician Class License, hence they cannot
>>participate in ARES activities.
>
> [...]
>
>A General-class or higher license is not required for ARES, either
>nationally:
>
> "Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other
> local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in
> ARES."
>
> (http://www.arrl.org/ares)

Yup. Probably half of my city's registered ARES participants hold a
Technician license, and most of these Techs have gone through the
background checks needed to be formally sworn into RACES as well.

My city ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator (my boss in this stuff) was a
Technician for the first five or six years of my participation. He
was Morse-code-averse, and didn't go for his General until the FCC
eliminated the Morse Code proficiency requirement.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

255. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-08 02:59:03 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <am7m98hdbplmo1ls7qmp5o2a1rqc8ibt82@4ax.com>
Source record: 324

On Tue, 6 Nov 2012 14:03:16 EST, <someone@somewhere.com> wrote:

>I don't have any details about ARES activity in Hurricane Sandy. But
>I suspect that ARES/RACES helped out. You should see some info on the
>ARRL web site as soon as they recover from the hurricane.

A close and dear friend (who is an Extra Class ham) was deployed as
part of an ARES team to a Red Cross shelter in an affected area in one
of the mid-Atlantic states. She reported that there were more Red-X
people than evacuees, plenty of donuts, and really horrible coffee.

Name, location, and call sign withheld to protect the guilty...Her
husband thinks evil thoughts about me anyhow.... <G>

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

256. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-08 02:59:11 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <sp7m98dte2ve71rqvfq6qrkef5vp0gtvsr@4ax.com>
Source record: 325

On Wed, 7 Nov 2012 11:15:07 EST, Channel Jumper
<Channel.Jumper.adfa358@radiobanter.com> wrote:

>And with the general mindset - most Amateur Radio Operators - at least a
>majority of them only has a Technician Class License, hence they cannot
>participate in ARES activities.

Our ARES/RACES group operations are mostly on VHF/UHF - both simplex
and through well-protected repeaters - where a Tech license holder is
fully permitted to operate. Only the link from the county EOC to the
State OEM is on HF and that only because the state bought the
equipment after the big storms of 2007 and gave it to us.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

257. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-08 17:51:12 UTC
From: Channel Jumper <Channel.Jumper.ae19d98@radiobanter.com>
Message-ID: <Channel.Jumper.ae19d98@radiobanter.com>
Source record: 326

I think that the person who used the Woody Allen quote might have been the person who might have gotten it the most - had they read what I wrote.

If you can operate from at home - on your own station, without doing anything or making any effort - this is the point I was trying to make when I said all they want to do is talk on the radio... TALK - not travel, not spend their own money, no do anything to help.

People likes nets - they like to be a part of something.
Its called the Herding instinct - they want to be a part of a group or herd.

In an emergency - SIMPLEX is the prefered mode of communications.
YOU MUST EXPECT THAT WHEN YOU GET THERE, THERE WILL NOT BE ANYTHING THERE FOR YOU TO USE.

Just ask anyone that responded to Hurricaine Katrina in Louisiana or Mississippi...

When you show up for an emergency, you need to have more then just a walkie talkie and a pocket full of batteries.
You can't expect the disaster people to provide everything for you.

You need to have your own place to stay - the back of a van or pick up truck is mininum. Your own radio equipment, your own food - enough for about 10 days. Your own clothes and toiletries - including water, because you never know what you are going to find once you get there.

I just came from New York City on Monday, and all I can say is if you saw the filth and the destruction - its unimagineable.
I was telling the natural gas crew that was going in behind me - not to expect much and to post one person just to watch the truck while you work.
We had a real problem with looting..
Here we were trying to fix things to make things better and the people were stealing things to sell out of the back of my truck.
I went so far as to ask if they all had their tetnus shots and if they brought a gun. Once it gets dark out - there is no law - unless you have the national guardsmen in the area. There is no gasoline!

The world runs on gasoline.

If they get the opportunity - they will poke a hole in your gas tank and drain the gasoline out of your tank and steal it.
It was more like an apocalypse then anything else..

Just imagine 1 million people going out on your main street and taking a dump twice a day for a week.
That is what it was like, after the sewage treatment plant was overcome by the water and was overloaded and just spewed raw sewage into the sea water.

Even after going through the Holland Tunnel - Manhanttan was unlike anything that I had ever saw before. Yuck!

Long Island NY I can't even describe... It was that bad.

The tower crews were paid state rate which amounted to about $221 a hour to work on Sunday and about $180 to work Saturday to get the radio system back up and running in New Jersey.. They still couldn't get many volunteers... I saw more crews running out of New York then what was going in.

One fourth of all the cell towers were down - basically the people believed that they would not fail. When the storm hit - even the towers that had generators and batteries - worked until the batteries went dead and the generators ran out of fuel. The people in a panic - overloaded the system by all trying to talk on the remaining cell towers. Some 911 communications was offline - but they did not publish which towers no longer worked - to keep the looters away from those area's.

The other thing is with 8 million people without power - when their cell phone went dead, they had to way to recharge the batteries.
The stores were empty - because the shelves were bare.

The only thing left in the one store was some boxes of Dcon - rat poison.

There wasn't any electric to run the gas pumps for the stations that did still have gasoline.
Nobody ever expected that something like this could ever happen to them.
And because it wasn't in Louisiana or Mississippi - help came immediately...
Just because these people are more important then the people from Mississippi and Louisiana.

The only difference was these people were not as desperate as the people from the south during Hurricaine Katrina.

As for the coffee - coffee is made to disguise the taste of the treated water.
If you look historically - the worlds coffee supply was bought up by the USA during WW II and the worlds TEA supply was bought up by the British...

You get your water out of a untreated water pipe - spigot - and see how long it is before you get disentary..
There was no electric to run the water filtering plant, and the water intake for the plant was in the raw sewage.

The water buffalo with the portable water was the prefered source for Red Cross and Salvation Army.

The people who still had working automobiles - were able to leave - if they had enough gasoline. While the people who lost everything were stuck where they were.

They do not need your donations..
These fools that are loading up the trucks and sending supplies are only wasting their time.
As others has said - there is more then enough doughnuts and coffee to go around.
Once the people gets tired of drinking bottled water - they will start complaining - just like they did in Hurricaine Katrina.

The insurance companies have been contacted and they will all be getting their checks.
Some of those homes that were destroyed, were built as summer cottages, which were later converted into homes.
They were built in the wrong place and to the wrong standards.
Hopefully the insurance companies will realize this and will give these people the money to move somewhere else or not to build in the same location.
Or to build to a better standard then before.

I could go on and on....

--
Channel Jumper

258. The ARRL Letter for November 8, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-08 19:59:31 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121108180521.D7F8E26DDBE@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 327
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

November 8, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

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<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
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- New QuickStats Poll Now Available on ARRL Website
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC REJECTS MARYLAND HAM'S PLAN FOR AMENDING MESSAGE
FORWARDING SYSTEM RULES

On Monday, November 5, the FCC issued a letter dismissing a Petition
for Rulemaking filed in February 2012 by Rolan Clark, W3FDK, of
Adamstown, Maryland. In his Petition, Clark had asked the FCC to amend
Section 97.219, specifying that control operators of the first
forwarding station in a message forwarding system of stations should
not be obligated to authenticate the identity of a station from which
the message forwarding system accepts messages, and that the first
forwarding station should not accept accountability for any violative
```

content of the messages put into the system, Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-rejects-maryland-ham-s-plan-for-amending-messag
e-forwarding-system-rules>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: DO NOT SELF-DEPLOY TO AREAS AFFECTED BY HURRICANE
SANDY

Amateur Radio operators who want to assist those Sections affected by
Hurricane Sandy should not self-deploy to those areas. "There are many
ARRL Sections involved in the impact area, and each has different
requirements on how they locate, credential and deploy volunteers,"
explained ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U. "If a
need for manpower is identified that cannot be met locally or in the
Section, Section leadership may contact other Sections for assistance.
If the need is still not met, Section leadership may then contact ARRL
HQ for assistance."

==> + IARU: IARU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL PLANS FOR WRC-15 AT ANNUAL
MEETING

The Administrative Council (AC) of the International Amateur Radio
Union (IARU) held its Annual Meeting November 2-4 in Ho Chi Minh City,
Vietnam. The AC -- which consists of the three IARU International
Officers and two representatives from each of the three IARU regional
organizations -- is responsible for the policy and management of the
IARU and. According to IARU Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD, the meeting
was a somber occasion due to the passing of IARU Region 3 Chairman
Michael J. Owen, VK3KI. Owen had been a member of the Administrative
Council for most of its existence, and had been a longtime contributor
to the efforts of IARU to promote and preserve Amateur Radio. Read more
here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/iaru-administrative-council-plans-for-wrc-15-at-ann
ual-meeting>.

==> + W1AW ANNOUNCES 2012-2013 WINTER OPERATING SCHEDULE

With the switch from Daylight Saving Time to Standard Time this past
weekend, W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, has updated the W1AW
operating schedule to reflect the change. The standard times have not
changed, but the UTC times have. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/w1aw-announces-2012-2013-winter-operating-schedule>
.

==> + LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD EXPECTED TO BE BACK ONLINE ON NOVEMBER 9

ARRL Information Technology Manager Michael Keane, K1MK, is
reporting that while Logbook of The World (LoTW
<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>) system is currently down,
it is expected to be back up by 9 AM EST (1400 UTC) on Friday, November
9. "While the system is temporarily down, radio amateurs are not able
to access LoTW or upload their logs," Keane explained. "No data has
been lost, and everyone's records are intact. We understand the problem
and we are in the process of restoring service to LoTW. Since both the

Logbook of The World service and the Online DXCC
<http://www.arrl.org/news/online-dxcc-application-to-debut-april-2>
service are connected to the ARRL Awards System, radio amateurs are not
able to access either service until the system is restored. We
apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, and want to assure the
amateur community that the ARRL is working diligently to restore
service to these popular programs."

==> ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXAMINES REGULATORY MATTERS,
ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES AND MORE AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

The ARRL Executive Committee (EC) held its second 2012 meeting
Saturday, September 29 in Denver, Colorado. The EC is responsible for
administering the League's affairs in between Board meetings. According
to the ARRL Articles of Association, the EC meets during the intervals
between meetings of the Board of Directors. It meets at the call of the
President, but no less often than semi-annually; the last meeting of
the EC was March 24, 2012.

At the meeting, the EC discussed the lack of visibility of Amateur
Radio enforcement actions, the FCC's study of the Amateur Radio study
mandated by Congress, the status to the followup of the report of the
ARRL's National Broadband Plan Committee, the future implementation of
the secondary MF allocation of 472-479 kHz and the Notice of Proposed
Rulemaking -- expected, but yet not released at the time of the meeting
-- that seeks to change the way Amateur Radio licenses are administered
and granted, as well as a change to the TDMA rules. The Committee also
discussed the upcoming Centennial Celebration and voted to approve
conventions and affiliated radio clubs, and recognized new ARRL Life
Members. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-executive-committee-examines-regulatory-matter
s-organizational-issues-and-more-at-september-mee>.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that
the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which
covers the month of October -- takes a look how affected ARRL Sections
handled the effects of Hurricane Sandy, the 2012 ARRL National
Convention in California, the annual ARRL On-Line Auction, new ARRL
publications, W1AW activities during JOTA, reports from the Official
Observer Desk and more. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-51>.

==> ARRL ATLANTIC DIVISION PRESENTS "VIRTUAL" CONVENTION

The Atlantic Division Leadership is turning the traditional
convention model on its head! This year -- through the use of
multimedia -- the Division will host its convention on the Internet
<http://www.atldiv.org/convention> on Saturday, November 10. ARRL
President (and former Atlantic Division Director) Kay Craigie, N3KN,
will be the keynote speaker at the 2012 Atlantic Division Convention!

"We will be doing the convention as an educational event," explained ARRL Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR. "We have some world-class presenters and topics for the convention, including NBEMS; an emergency communications discussion panel, information on stealth antennas, a DX forum and a forum on RF propagation." Find information and the presentations schedule for the convention here <http://www.atldiv.org/convention>. There is no cost for registration and Edgar said that there are still some seats available, but registration will close when there are no more seats available.

==> + ARRL SAYS "THANK YOU" TO VETERANS

On Sunday, November 11, here in the US and abroad, we will celebrate Veterans Day, also called Remembrance Day or Armistice Day. Originally a holiday that marked the end of World War I -- the "War to End All Wars" -- this day has been set aside to honor all who have served their country. It was on November 11, 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, that Germany signed the Armistice, formally ending the hostilities that had been ongoing since 1914.

The ARRL would like to take this opportunity to thank our service veterans. Whether they served on active duty or reserve, during peacetime or time of conflict, they served their county with honor. We also would be remiss if we did not remember the families of those veterans who kept the home fires burning bright; without their love and support, our veterans would have indeed been alone.

ARRL Headquarters has its share of service veterans: Assistant VEC Manager Perry Green, WY1O (Army); Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR (Army); News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA (Coast Guard); Instruction and Resource Coordinator Nathan McCray, K9CPO (Navy); DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L (Army); Reprints Specialist Tony Nesta, AA1RZ (Navy); Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N (Navy); Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling, WB3ERA (Army); Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG (Air Force), and Education & Technology Program Coordinator Mark Spencer, WA8SME (Air Force).

Thank you for your service -- your sacrifice and the sacrifice of your fellow service members is not forgotten.

==> + USPS SEEKS TO PHASE OUT IRCS

If the US Postal Service (USPS <https://www.usps.com/>) gets its way, it will no longer sell International Reply Coupons (IRCs) after January 27, 2013. According to the October 23 edition of the Federal Register <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/10/23/2012-25992/international-mailing-services-proposed-product-and-price-changes#h-88>, there is not sufficient demand for the USPS to continue offering IRCs to customers; however, per the Universal Postal Union (UPU <http://www.upu.int/en.html>) regulations, the USPS must continue to

exchange and redeem IRCs that have been purchased in foreign countries and presented at USPS facilities. Comments on this proposed change will be accepted <http://www.regulations.gov/#!submitComment;D=USPS-2012-0101-0001> through November 23, 2012. IRCs provide foreign addressees with a prepaid means of responding to inquiries, solicitations or other types of communications -- such as QSL cards -- that are initiated by US senders. IRCs are exchangeable for postage stamps by postal administrations in member countries of the UPU. Each IRC is equivalent in value to the destination country's minimum postage price for an unregistered airmail letter. The purchase price is in the US is currently $2.20 per IRC. -- Thanks to The Daily DX <http://www.dailydx.com/> for some information.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity retreated again this week, with the average daily sunspot numbers declining 8.7 points to 49.7, while the average daily solar flux was down nearly 20 points to 97.2. The latest forecast shows solar flux at 100 on November 8-9, 105 on November 10-11, 100 on November 12-13, 95 on November 14-15, 115 on November 16-17, and 110 on November 18-20. The planetary A index forecast predicts an index of 9 on November 8, 5 on November 9-10, 7 on November 11-12, 5 on November 13-18, 8 on November 19, and back down to 5 on November 20-December 10. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, November 9. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- Will you be participating in the ARRL 160 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/160-meter> on November 30?
- Do you make a special effort to perform maintenance on your antenna system in preparation for winter?
- How many computers do you own (desktop, laptop or tablet)?
- How long do you keep your print editions of QST?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will be published in the February 2013 issue of QST on the QuickStats page, located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- November 9 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 10-11 -- Kentucky QSO Party; WAE DX Contest (RTTY); 10-10 International Fall Contest (Digital); JIDX Phone Contest; OK/OM DX Contest (CW)
- November 10-11 -- CQ-Western Electric Contest
- November 11 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
- November 12 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- November 14-15 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test
- November 15 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

Next week:

- November 16 -- NCCC Sprint; YO International PSK31 Contest
- November 17 -- CQ SA SSB Contest; Feld Hell Sprint
- November 17-18 -- LZ DX Contest; All Austrian 160 Meter Contest; RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest (CW)
- November 17-19 -- ARRL Sweepstakes Contest (SSB) <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>; North American Collegiate ARC Championship (SSB)
- November 18 -- EPC PSK63 QSO Party; Homebrew and Old Time Equipment Party
- November 19 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- November 10 -- ARRL Alabama State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/alabama-state-convention-1>, Montgomery, Alabama
- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-computer-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-bay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida

- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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Join or Renew Today! <http://www.arrl.org/join> ARRL membership
includes QST <http://www.arrl.org/qst>, Amateur Radio's most popular
and informative journal, delivered to your mailbox each month.

Subscribe to NCJ - the National Contest Journal
<http://www.arrl.org/ncj>. Published bi-monthly, features articles by
top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#!/edit-info-email_subscription
s>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency
communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org>. Follow us on
Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store>
to enhance your enjoyment of Amateur Radio.

Donate <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form> to the fund of your
choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

Click here <ads@arrl.org> to advertise in this newsletter.

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by editing their profile
<http://www.arrl.org/Users/edit#!/edit-info-email_subscriptions>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

259. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-09 01:01:17 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <509bff8e$0$18289$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 328

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <xxx-08E318.19080905112012@nntp.aioe.org> Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> writes:

> I haven't heard any ARES activity related to the hurricane. Were
>there any HF nets? Is there any activity coming out of the areas that
>are still without power? Does ARES still exist, other than on paper?

>--
>Klystron

Item of interest about this thread just posted to QRZ:

//
HamRadioNow: Hurricane Sandy Follow-Up

Posted: 07 Nov 2012 07:37 AM PST
http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?367514-HamRadioNow-Hurricane-Sandy-Follow-Up&goto=newpost

HAMRADIONOW.tv

Episode 31: Hurricane Sandy Follow-Up

Hurricane Sandy is gone. What did Ham Radio do? What did we learn?

In this episode, Southern New Jersey ARRL SEC John Zaruba K2ZA returns,

and is joined by ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey KI1U

to discuss how it went, and what we learned to do even better next time.

Watch this episode at our web site, www.HamRadioNow.tv.

to support these programs, visit

HAMRADIONOW.tv

and 'click the piggy bank'

//

(73, Paul, K3FU)

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlCb/2oACgkQ6Pj0az779o4HrwCfQ33cCgbmgsEbBpPcNSq32h7J
OlIAniSPoKmm6W4rQ5E0PL1HXRG8JNq9
=Gi8C
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

260. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1839 - November 9 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-09 10:00:12 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121109100003.A236033C53@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 329
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1839 - November 9 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1839 with a release date of November 9, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. The German Space Agency nixes a ham radio mission to Mars but AMSAT-DL is not giving up on launching the probe. Also Ireland's national amateur radio society takes a stand against a proposed pan-European broadband over powerline standard and a Los Angeles radio personality says he will donate a kidney to a station engineer. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1839 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: GERMAN SPACE AGENCY REJECTS AMSAT DL MARS MISSION

Germany's space exploration plans will not support a proposed ham radio mission to the red planet. We have more in this report:

--

After five years of discussions and negotiations with the German space agency, AMSAT-DL reports that nation's space exploration group has withdrawn its support for the amateur satellite organization's plan to send a ham radio satellite to Mars. This is the so-called P 5 or Phase 5 satellite mission.

According to the AMSAT News Service, the agency advised the group that P5's mission was not financially feasible. Also that compared with the current Mars missions the scientific attraction was simply not there. You can read that as being of insufficient interest to the formal scientific research community.

The decision by the German Space Agency also affects plans for a geostationary Earth-orbiting ham radio satellite. This being the so called Phase 3 E which was to be part of the overall P 5 program. None of this is good news for amateur radio's future exploration of the final frontier.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Burt Hicks, in Los Angeles.

--

AMSAT-DL officials sat that they are not giving up hope for these missions. They note that their organization recently had some interesting meetings in China adding that if it cannot do rocket science in Germany, that it will have to look for other countries. (ANS)

**

RADIO POLITICS: IARU REGION 3 CONFERENCE IN HO CHI MINH CITY

Delegates are likely preparing to return home from the International Amateur Radio Union Region 3 conference that was held in Ho Chi Minh City from November 5th to the 9th. This 15th triennial conference was hosted by the Vietnam Amateur Radio Club and was themed emergency communications as reflected in the frequent disasters that involve amateur radio communications.

In seeking to standardize privileges and licensing, the organizations directors have asked that consideration be given to one of their papers. This is one that explores issues facing amateur radio societies in working with their administration in the 21st century.

There were also reports from the IARU Region 1 and 2, from Region 3 member societies, Amateur Radio Direction Finding interests, the IARU Monitoring Service, along with beacon and satellite representatives. The delegates also talked about regional finances and the organizations constitution. (VK3PC)

**

RADIO LAW: IRTS ANNOUNCES OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED EUROPEAN PLT STANDARD

Ireland's Irish Radio Transmitters Society is the latest national ham radio organization to line up in opposition to a newly proposed pan-European draft digital Power Line or PLT transmission standard. Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, has more:

--

Following the news last week that the German National Society, DARC, now opposes a new pan-European draft Power Line Transmission standard, we have heard that the Irish Radio Transmitters Society, like the RSGB, also opposes the standard.

In their magazine they say that "the draft Standard accepts that the PLT devices do not, in effect, meet the essential requirements of the EMC Directive as it prescribes measures to mitigate interference by permanently or dynamically excluding frequencies in the amateur, aeronautical mobile and broadcast bands."

The IRTS Committee took the unanimous view that it would not be appropriate to support a draft Standard that sought only to protect selective sensitive frequencies in the HF spectrum without regard to the levels of interference that could be caused by the equipment concerned on the remainder of the HF spectrum.

For the Amateur radio Newsline, I'm Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, in Nottingham in the United Kingdom.

--

As previously noted here on Amateur Radio Newsline, this new standard concerns the devices that people install in their homes to run data over their house wiring. It has nothing to do with PLC or BPL data that is carried over the over company powerline networks. (GB2RS)

**

RESCUE RADIO: CANADIAN RADIO CLUB WANTS WEATHER TRANSMITTER IN MINDEN

A Canadian amateur radio club is lobbying for a new severe weather alert transmitting station in the county it serves. The Minden Times reports that on October 26th the Minden Amateur Radio Club members of the club which is one of the oldest in Haliburton County, gathered for their weekly meeting. At that time club President Dorian Young, VE3YBG, put forth the idea of getting a transmitter in Minden for the purpose of emergency weather alert situations.

One of the special guests at the gathering was Gord Maybee of Weatheradio Canada who connected the group via a conference call to Denis Paquette of Environment Canada. Paquette told the group the average amount of time it takes to get a transmitter is two years, after specifics such as scouting a location and installation are factored in.

At the meeting VE3YBG noted that there have been two weather emergencies in the past few years, one being a massive snowstorm and a the other wind storm. He noted that with Minden hosting the Pan Am Games in 2015 it would be a wonderful addition to have a weather transmitter in the area. Young added that the radio club is eager to make this happen.

Currently, the closest transmitter is in Orillia, however, members of the club argued Haliburton County does not receive adequate or timely information from that location. While there used to be a transmitter in nearby Algonquin Park that unit is no longer operational.

More is on-line at tinyurl.com/minden-weather-radio (Minden Times, Minden Amateur Radio Club)

**
RESCUE RADIO: CLARK COUNTY NEVADA DROPS HARRIS DESERT SKY RADIO SYSTEM

After two years of battling dropped calls and dead zones in the department's new radio system, Nevada's Clark County Sheriff Doug Gillespie has opted to drop the Harris Desert Sky police radio system.

On October 11th, Gillespie informed the Chief Executive Officer of Harris Corporation that his company's Desert Sky radio system cannot meet his department's needs.

Unveiled in the summer of 2010, the $42 million Desert Sky digital system is based on Harris' OpenSky digital communications technology. While Desert Sky's data capabilities have seen mixed results, the voice communication between officers is the bigger problem. Gillespie says that while things have improved in the past two years, the system still is not up to the standard for an agency whose officers talk on the radio 50,000 times every day.

The most common complaints are common among patrol officers who say the faulty system endangers their lives. In his statement Sheriff Gillespie noted that he believed that his department had given Harris every opportunity to make the system work, but it's just not reliable. The full story is on-line at tinyurl.com/DesertSkyDumped. Clark County, Nevada encompasses the city of Las Vegas and surrounding areas. (CGC, Las Vegas Review Journal)

**

INTERNATIONAL LAW: INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS MAY SOON BE PASSED OUT IN THE USA

International Reply Coupons may soon be a thing of the past. At least here in the United States with word that the U.S. Postal Service has proposed doing away with them due to what it says is a very low demand.

The Postal Service says that even if it stops selling International Reply Coupons that it will continue to accept those purchased in foreign countries and presented at its U.S. facilities.

International Reply Coupons have long been a staple in the DX community used to help offset the cost of DX'ers to provide QSL cards especially from some of the words rarer DX locations. They have also been used to assist hams in nations where sending in foreign currency is not allowed. (USPS, QRZ)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Cal-Net Link serving all of California.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMS SHOULD NOT SELF DEPLOY FOR HURRICANE SANDY RELIEF

The ARRL is warning hams who want to assist those regions affected by Hurricane Sandy to not self-deploy to those areas. According to the League there are many ARRL Sections involved and each has different requirements as to how they locate, credential and deploy volunteers. If a need for manpower is identified that cannot be met locally or in a given ARRL Section, its leadership may contact other ARRL Sections for

assistance. If the need is still not met, Section leadership may then contact ARRL Headquarters for the needed assistance. But the bottom line is that you not go to any devastated area unless you are specifically asked to do so. (ARRL)

**

RESCUE RADIO: UNSUNG HEROES OF THE VoIP HURRICANE NET

Some of the most important messaging during Hurricane Sandy or any other hurricane was handled by the unsung heroes of the VoIP Hurricane Net. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is here with their story:

--

They truly are the unsung heroes of ham radio that few in the hobby know about. But they do the kind of volunteer work that is needed to assist the National Weather Service and other served agencies when disaster is near. And during Hurricane Sandy their contributions were immense. Take a listen:

--

Net audio: "WB1BOX from N1OU. Seeing a dramatic increase in the amount of wires down, trees taking out transformers and powerlines here in the city of Meriden Connecticut."

--

That's the sound of the sound of the VoIP SKYWARN and Hurricane Nets. Their primary objective is to help save lives and property thru the identification and field evaluation of threatening or dangerous weather conditions. At the same time facilitate the timely gathering and dissemination of this information.

--

Net audio: "We are very concerned about Rhode Island for coastal storm surge flooding basically from the Dartmouth -New Bedford area West is our big concern coming up here. So we are going to try to do the best we can to try to get some data. A lot of those areas are going to be closed off so we are going to see what we can come up with to gather data there that I know is extremely critical."

--

The VoIP SKYWARN and Hurricane Nets operate by combining both Echolink and IRLP linked repeater networks over the Internet. This they say provides for more efficient and effective utilization of available resources while handling critical wide area communications during major severe weather events.

To learn more about the efforts of the VoIP Hurricane Net, you are invited to join the VOIP-WXNET Yahoo Group or visit voipwx.net on the

World Wide Web.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

More on Hurricane Sandy and ham radio relief efforts in future Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (ARNewsline)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC TURNS DOWN PETITION TO CHANGE RESPONSIBILITY OF CONTENT IN MESSAGE FORWARDING SYSTEMS

The FCC has denied a petition to change Part 97.219 of the Amateur Service rules filed by Rolan O. Clark, W3FDK, of Adamstown, Maryland. This regarding the responsibility of control operators in message forwarding systems for retransmitted messages that violate the Commission's rules. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Embee, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

In his rule making request, Rolan O. Clark, W3FDK, had asked that the phrase - quote -- "except as noted in paragraph (d) of this section, for stations participating in a message forwarding system" be removed from Section 97.219(c) and that Section 97.219(d) be removed completely.

In his filing, Clark stated that he believed that the control operator of the first forwarding station in a message forwarding system - quote -- "should have the same standing as the control operator of a repeater that inadvertently retransmits communications that violate the rules. This, because the intent to accomplish communications consisting of text and/or voice communications is the same.

Clark also claimed that Section 97.219 (d) is ambiguous as it gives no direction to the method and degree of processes and or procedures needed to define the degree of authentication. He said that it implies that there would have to be a visually obtainable copy of the suspected violation otherwise it becomes hearsay.

Clark proposed to address these differences between a message forwarding system and a repeater by conforming Section 97.219 to Section 97.205(g). Specifically, he suggested requiring that the originator of a message that is entered into a message forwarding system be the only licensee responsible for its content.

But in its November 5th ruling turning down Clark's rule change petition the FCC noted that it had considered and rejected requirements such as he proposed when it adopted the message forwarding system rules back in 1994. It went on to say that Clark's present petition did not demonstrate or even suggest that any relevant circumstances have

changed such as to merit reconsideration of this decision. As such the Commission says that Clark's current proposal does not demonstrate that revising this rule would provide the ongoing oversight of message forwarding systems that must be present. To the contrary, the regulatory agency suggests that Clark's proposal asks for an accommodation for message forwarding systems that commenter's said should not apply to these systems.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Embee, KB3TZD, in Berwyck, Pennsylvania.

--

At airtime its unknown if Clark plans to appeal the Commissions dismissal of his rule making request. (FCC)

**

RADIO PRODUCTS: NEW HT WITH GSM PHONE NOT LEGAL IN USA

A mainland China company called Puxing has announced what might be the ultimate in hand held two-way gear, but the chances are that you will never see one in the United States. At least not legally and the reason for this is simple.

The PX-D03 combines a GSM cellular telephone with a dual-band two-way radio and as a bonus can also be used as an MP3 player for your favorite tunes. And under the current FCC rules, combining a two-way radio with a cellphone makes the unit illegal to import, buy, sell or use in the U-S-A or its possessions.

According to the specifications posted on-line by one China-based mail order retailer, the PX-D03 covers 136 to174 and 400 to 470 MHz as a full dual band two-way transceiver with a total of 128 memory channels. It can be computer programmed and features what Puxing calls a human-based operational interface.

On the cellphone side, the GSM-based unit carries dual S-I-M cards, has text messaging, and a built-in front-facing camera. And if that were not all, the unit also contains an FM radio that receives the 87.5 to 108 MHz broadcast band, the afore mentioned MP3 player plus other entertainment including several games.

As being advertised, the PX-D03 comes with a 3.7v Lithium-Ion battery, a charging stand and power supply for the country the purchaser lives in; two antennas, a soft case and a remote plug in earpiece. According to one of the websites advertising the unit, the total cost is $151 shipped world-wide. (Southgate)

**

RADIO FUNDING: DX MAGAZINE ASKS HOW TO GET INCREAEED FUNDING FOR RXPEDITIONS

The current issue of DX Magazine features an article titled Dealing With the Skyrocketing Costs of DXpeditions and is is asking its readers for their ideas on how to increase the level of funding for future major DX operations

Carl Smith, N4AA, is the Editor and Publisher of the DX Magazine. He says that major DXpeditions to entities in the top ten most wanted list can cost $500,000 or more to activate. This poses a major fund raising challenge to organizers, especially with costs rising rapidly for such big ticket items as transportation, licensing, and permits.

Specific costs are documented in the article appearing in the November-December issue. Smith said that DXer's and others are invited to send their ideas to the DX Magazine, which will be reporting the results in a future issue. All suggestions are welcome, and may be either anonymous or identified by the contributor's name and call.

If you want to lend your thoughts to solving this problem please send your ideas and comments to the DXpedition Costs Survey, % Dee Logan, W1HEO, 9901 Cypress Circle, Mentor, Onio, 44060. E-mail submissions to deverelogan (at) gmail (dot) com are also welcome. (DX Magazine, Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NEWSLINE'S WA6ITF TO APPEAR ON ECHOLINK NET NOV. 17

Amateur Radio Newsline producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, will be the featured guest on the Saturday night, November 17th edition of the Echolink Newsline Net. The net meets every Saturday at 9 p.m. Eastern on the Dodropin conference server which is Echolink Node number 355800. According to Steve Sercrest, W8WFO, this is not the original name for the gathering. Rather, because it's been running our weekly report for such a long time that those signing in began calling it the Amateur Radio Newsline or Newsline network.

Again, you are welcome to join in the net conference at Echolink node 355800 on Saturday night, November 17th at 9 p.m. Eastern to hear Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, talk about numerous things in ham radio and do is best to answer your questions. Bill says he hopes to meet many of you there. (W8WFO)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: MORE TESTING AT WWVB

WWVB, the 60 kHz station most often used as our nation's time and frequency standard, is continuing to test its phase modulated mode and may switch between their legacy AM mode and their new phase modulated mode in the days and weeks ahead. Stay tuned and keep listening on 60 kHz for their ongoing experiments. (CGC, WWVB)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: OZ7IGY NEXT GENERATION 6 AND 2 METER BEACONS ON THE AIR FROM DENMARK

The first two Next Generation Beacons have come to the airwaves. On October 30th the latest two OZ7IGY came to 6 and 2 meters from Slettebjerg, Denmark.

OZ7IGY is the world's oldest beacon system in the world having begun operation in the International Geophysical Year in 1957. From its start on 144 MHz it has ever since been on air continuously. Now the newest beacons can be heard on 50.46973 MHz and 144.46973 MHz respectively.

And by way of background, the Next Generation Beacon platform is open to other users and the software can easily be adapted to other modulation types and sequences. And as the new platform is frequency and time locked to GPS signals the frequency accuracy is better than 5 milli-Hertz.

More information is on the web at www.oz7igy.dk. (GB2RS)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: SPOT THE ISS SERVICE FROM NASA

A new service from NASA called Spot the Station will send you a text message when the International Space Station is within visual range of your house.

The service will only notify users if the station is easily visible above trees, buildings, and other objects. Spot the Station will calculate the station's proximity to more than 4,600 positions on Earth, updating its information several times each week.

The International Space Station is usually at peak visibility at dawn and dusk. When skies are clear, it typically appears as fast-moving point of light.

You can sign up for the service on line by visiting spotthestation.nasa.gov. (NASA, N6ZXJ)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: STILL NO SIGNAL FROM F1 CUBESAT

There have still been no confirmed reception reports since the F-1 amateur radio CubeSat was deployed from the International Space Station

on 4th October. Its command team is now focusing on reception of the backup UHF transmitter on 437.485 MHz, plus or minus 10 kHz Doppler shift.

This FM beacon should transmit Morse code for 20 seconds every minute during the satellites daylight. The team would appreciate any reports of the beacon be sent by email to thuvt (at) fpt (dot) edu dot) vn. Further information on F1 can be found at www.amsat-uk.org. (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FIRST TIME EVER INDIA TO ISS STUDENT CONTACT

A group of students in Gujarat, India will reach out to the stars. For the first time in that nation's history about 500 students will have a live chat with Sunita Williams, KD5PLB, the Indian-origin astronaut aboard the International Space Station, using an amateur radio station at the Science City facility in Ahmedabad.

Ravi Saxena is an Assistant Chief Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology. He says that because Williams has roots in India, it is all the more special to them.

The contact is currently slated for November 14, celebrated as Children's Day in India. To arrange this Q-S-O, India's scientific community from the state of Ahmedabad contacted NASA soon after Williams set off for her record-breaking journey in July of this year. (WIA)

**

ON THE AIR: THE 850 BIRTHDAY OF CHINGGIS

On the air keep an ear open for special event callsigns with a J-U-850 prefix that will be on the air November 14th to the 21st from Mongolia. This to celebrate 850th birthday emperor Chinggis Khan.

A Chinggis Khan Award will be issued free to those who make three contacts with three different event callsigns. These include JU850AA, JU850DA, JU850DN and can be made using any mode on any band. If you make contact with any of the commemorative JU850 stations please QSL via the information found for each call on QRZ.com.

By way of background, Chinggis Kahn, called in some parts of the world as Genghis Khan, came to power by uniting many of the nomadic tribes of Northeast Asia. In the year 1207 he was the founder and great leader of the Mongol Empire, which became the largest contiguous empire in history after his demise in 1227. (JT1CS)

**

DX

In DX, word that JH1AJT will be on the air from Bhutan through the 15th of November as A5A He will be active on 40 through 10 meters using

various modes. QSL via home call

ARRL Awards Branch Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, has announced that the August 2012 VU7M Lakshadweep Islands and the ZD9UW operation from Tristan Da Cunha and Gough have been approved for DXCC credit. If you worked them feel free to submit your cards for DXCC checking for these two.

R4WAA will be active from Dominican Republic November 21st to the 30th signing stroke HI7. He will be working on 40 through 10 meters and will definitely be on for the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest November 24th and 25th. QSL via home call call direct or via the bureau.

G7COD will be on the air 8Q7AK from Embudu Island in the Maldives for three weeks in February of 2013. He's expected to be operating holiday style on 30, 17 and 12 meters using CW and SSB. QSL him also via his home callsign, direct or via the bureau.

DF2WO is currently operational from Cape Verde as D-44-T-W-O. He is reported to be active on the High Frequency Bands. QSL via his home call

Lastly, SP5EAQ will be active from Tongatapu Island in the Kingdom of Tonga 26 from March 26th to April 16th as A3EAQ He will be operational on 80 through 10 meters using SSB. QSL via SP5EAQ.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: A TRUE ACT OF TRUE HUMANITY

And finally this week, it isn't often that you hear a story like this, but when you do it makes one proud to be a member of the human race. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW reports:

--

Gene "Bean" Baxter is a personality of CBS Radio's KROQ-FM in Los Angeles. He has entertained L.A. audiences since 1990 alongside on-the-air partner Kevin Ryder, as part of the "Kevin and Bean" morning show team.

In addition to making a multitude of over the air friends, Bean, as he is known, has also created longstanding relationships with those inside the KROQ offices. In that vein he recently announced that he will become a kidney donor to help a longtime staffer. The recipient of Bean's generosity will be Scott Mason, N1CBS, who is the Director of Engineering for CBS radio on the West Coast, and who has been with the company in a variety of capacities since 1979.

On November 13th, the two will go to Cedars Sinai Medical Center which is one of only four hospitals in the country that have the ability to match Mason's blood type to that of Bean and give him the much needed

organ. Bean then plans to take a few weeks off from work, and expects his remaining kidney to function at about 80%.

Out of this whole process, Bean hopes that people will see how easy it is to become an organ donor. He also believes that if he recovers quickly and is back to work in a short time, it may deliver an even stronger message, changing the minds of some and raising awareness of organ donation.

This will be the second transplant for Mason, who has had kidney problems for most of his adult life. He underwent a previous transplant from a cadaver in 1999 that lasted about 10 years. He currently undergoes daily dialysis and calls Bean's decision to donate a kidney to him as a game changer. Bean Baxter calls it a no-brainer.

Wishing them both Mason and Bean a quick recovery from this upcoming and life changing surgery, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

Scott Mason has been on a waiting list for a kidney, which sometimes is a six to 10 year wait, when Bean offered his kidney. For Bean Baxter, it was an educational process and a decision based on math, not emotions. He said that Mason has zero kidneys and that he has two. You can hear the full discussion with Bean Baxter and Scott Mason on Kevin and Bean audio archive at tinyurl.com/radio-kidney-donation

(RBR, KROQ Audio Archive, ARNewsline)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, in Vero Beach, Florida, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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261. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-09 19:27:22 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ruhq98hn98tq6a31v7drbii1uf9fanf68u@4ax.com>
Source record: 330

On Thu, 8 Nov 2012 12:51:12 EST, Channel Jumper
<Channel.Jumper.ae19d98@radiobanter.com> wrote:

[Selected excerpts]

>If you can operate from at home - on your own station, without doing
>anything or making any effort - this is the point I was trying to make
>when I said all they want to do is talk on the radio... TALK - not
>travel, not spend their own money, no do anything to help.

>In an emergency - SIMPLEX is the prefered mode of communications.
>YOU MUST EXPECT THAT WHEN YOU GET THERE, THERE WILL NOT BE ANYTHING
>THERE FOR YOU TO USE.

There's all kinds of "deployment". I and folks like me cannot be
deployed "to the boonies" because of mobility or other problems and we
serve as well by manning pre-equipped command centers where the only
thing we need to have when we get there are our training and knowledge
and dedication.

In my ECC at a major medical center we do not accept "walk-ins"
because of legal and training problems. We cannot do "on the fly"
training of people to handle medical and hospital administrative
communications.

>If you look historically - the worlds coffee supply was bought up by the
>USA during WW II and the worlds TEA supply was bought up by the
>British...

And at the present time, Coca Cola is the biggest purchaser of tea
worldwide - where do you think all that caffeine in Coke comes from?

>I could go on and on....

And a close friend of mine (an Extra Class ham) was one of the medical
examiners handling the ID of the victims of the Twin Towers disasters.
They were required to sign NDAs so there are lots of unpublished
stories from that disaster. Things happen.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

Member, Washington County, OR
Emergency Communications Team
for ARES/RACES and HEARTNET

Station Co-manager - W7PSV / K7PSV
Providence St. Vincent Medical Center
Disaster Communication Team

262. 30 Years Ago: FCC Assigns RM 4229 to ARRL Petition for Volunteer Examiners

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-09 22:10:34 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <509d6dfb$0$18361$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 331
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

This is from a web-site that is replaying Usenet, including
net.ham-radio, from 30 years ago (currently late 1982). The site is:

http://www.olduse.net

If you prefer to use your own newsreader, the site also supports an NNTP
connection at:

nntp.olduse.net:119

>From: ad7i <utzoo!decvax!harpo!ihps3!houxz!houxi!houxa!houxc!ad7i>
>Subject: ARRL 98: Volunteer Examiners
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Mon Nov 8 09:20:53 1982

qst de ad7i
hr arrl bulletin nr 98 from arrl headquarters
newington ct november 2, 1982
to all radio amateurs bt

fcc has assigned rm 4229 to the leagues petition for rulemaking
seeking amendment of fcc part 97 to allow the use of volunteers in
the preparation and administration of amateur radio examinations.
the petition was filed on october 22. for background information,
see the happenings column in april 1982 qst and the october 28 issue
of the arrl letter ar

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlCdbd0ACgkQ6Pj0az779o4lUQCgzqEYfe7/C27pK3syGmm9HrHR
azkAn2zQO8ARDtlxNCqFNhiElwkKJ5/w
=C+L6
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

263. New Membership Benefit: Free QST App for iPad iPhone iPod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-12 16:47:42 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121112151832.7D1B1247A2@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 332
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

Free QST App for Apple iOS Devices
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8>
Overview

ARRL members using Apple iOS mobile devices--iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch--can download a /new/ dedicated app to access the digital edition of /QST/. The app allows ARRL members to read /QST/ online or choose to download individual issues of the journal for offline reading.

*Features of the New/QST/ App
*

* *Free:* The /QST/ app is free in the Apple App Store. You must be an ARRL member to access individual issues of /QST/.
* */QST/**Catalog:* Browse all available digital issues.
* *My **/QST/**Library:* Download issues of /QST/ directly to your device for offline reading.

Using the New /QST/ App

* From your iOS device, go to the Apple App Store to search for and install the *fre**e* /QS//T/ app. Or click here to download the app <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8> now.
* Verify your Apple ID Password
* Open the app and go to the "QST Catalog" to browse available digital issues
* Tap on the cover of an issue and select "Read" or "Download"
* Log in with your ARRL website Username and Password (If you do not have an ARRL website Username and Password, please register at www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>)
* Each time you download an issue in the app, it is added to the "My QST Library" to view offline. *Important:* Before viewing issues offline, you must first initialize each issue online using your ARRL website login.
* To stream embedded video and audio, you must be connected to the Internet.
* This app may send anonymous usage statistics to ARRL and our service providers to help us improve /QST/ and better meet the needs of our members. To disable sending usage information, turn ON the "Disable Tracking" feature for the /QST/ app in your iOS device settings. For more information, visit the D
<http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq>igital QS
<http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq>T
<http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq>FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq>and the ARRL Online Privacy

Policy <http://www.arrl.org/online-privacy-policy>.

*Using an Android or Windows mobile deice?
*At this time, a native app is only available for Apple iOS devices.
Users with Android or Windows devices can access the digital edition of
/QST/ from a web browser
<http://www.nxtbook.com/fx/archives/view.php?id=4d8f3fb65736c8b1e83e4879a8b0ef57>.
The web version runs in an internet browser on nearly any device,
including desktop or laptop computer, smartphone, tablet, and e-book
reader. For more information, visit www.arrl.org/qst
<http://www.arrl.org/qst>.

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264. December 2012 QST - Digital Edition

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-14 17:29:40 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121114132350.D300025A13@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 333
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

*December 2012 QST - Digital Edition - *Go Now>
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201212/>
Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201212/>

Digital QST

December 2012 QST - Digital Edition
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201212/>Dear ARRL Member,

Seasons Greetings from ARRL. The digital edition of December /QST/ is
available now! Go to this link and start reading: December 2012 /QST/
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201212/>.

* Combine Two Delta Loop Antennas into a Powerful Collinear Array
* Save Your Vocal Cords with an Easy to Build Voice Keyer
* Try PSK31 on 2 Meter FM
* Take a DX Voyage to "Christmas Island"
* Read the Complete 2012 ARRL Field Day Results
* ...and much more!

Enjoy Content You Won't Find in the Print Edition...

* A video overview of the Elecraft KX3 HF and 6 Meter QRP transceiver
* Extra Pacificon convention photos and a profile of astronaut Lee
Morin, KF5DDB
* An audio excerpt from the Pacificon banquet speech by ARRL CEO David
Sumner, K1ZZ
* /A special //QST//Staff Holiday video!/

Apple App Store <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8>
And, don't forget to check out the *NEW /QST/ App* for Apple iOS
devices. The app is free in Apple's App Store
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8>. Now you can read
and download the digital edition of /QST/ on your iPhone, iPad and iPod
touch.

73,

Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Editor
---
*What is a digital edition?
*The digital edition of /QST/ is an electronic form of the journal. All
ARRL members have access to the digital edition of /QST/...a way to read
and interact with the current issue of /QST/ anytime, anywhere. Each
issue includes unique, digital-edition-only content such as video, audio

features and extra content. Members can also access the digital archive for access to previous issues.

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To login or register, go to www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

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265. FCC Daily Digest 11/14/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-14 18:34:53 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524871-2012.11.14-12.56.46--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 334
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 218 November 1
4, 2012

[...]

APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY POOL (CONVENTIONAL) LICENSES FOR MOBILE USE
OF RECONROBOTICS VIDEO AND AUDIO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS. Granted James Edw
in Whedbee's request to withdraw the petitions to deny. Denied the America
n Radio Relay League's petition for reconsideration. Granted Whedbee's requ
est to withdraw the petition. by ORDER. Action by: Chief, Public Safety an
d Homeland Security Bureau. Adopted: 11/13/2012 by Order on Reconsideratio
n. (DA No. 12-1828). PSHSB WTB OET http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/
attachmatch/DA-12-1828A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1828A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1828A1.txt

[...]

266. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-15 07:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1352962800@panix.com>
Source record: 335
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
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Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

267. Ron Cashon, K0PTK, in the news!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-15 16:41:57 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121115134409.0642323F97@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 336
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,oma.general,nebr.misc,rec.radio.info

Larry Lehmann, KC0DA, sent out a note about Ron, K0PTK. The Rapid City Journal had a nice article about him and his interests in ham radio. The nicely written article discusses emergency communications and background on the hobby.

Here is the link to the story:

http://tinyurl.com/b9be2o6

Nice story, Ron! And thanks to Larry for letting us know.

73, Art K0AIZ

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
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268. The ARRL Letter for November 15, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-15 23:07:41 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121115201654.F392327735@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 337
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

November 15, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + QST -- There's an App for That!
- + FCC Denies ARRL Petition to Deny ReconRobotics Licenses, But Limits
Devices to 100 kHz Bandwidth
- IARU: Ho Chi Minh City Hosts IARU Region 3 Conference
- + Check Out the December Issue of QST
- + Dayton Hamvention Announces DX Theme for 2013
- + Be a Star! Enter the Third Annual ARRL Video Contest
- W1AW Announces 2012-2013 Winter Operating Schedule
- Solar Update
- + ARRL Headquarters to Close for Thanksgiving Holidays
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + QST -- THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

ARRL members who use Apple iOS mobile devices -- iPhone, iPad and
iPod Touch -- can now download a new dedicated app
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8> to access and
browse all issues of the digital edition of QST. This app allows ARRL
members to read QST online or download individual issues of the journal
for offline reading. This free app is available
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8> to ARRL members
in the Apple App Store.

Using the New QST App:

- From your iOS device, go to the Apple App Store to search for and
install the free QST app. Or simply click here
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8> to download the
app now.
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- Verify your Apple ID password.
- Open the app and go to the "QST Catalog" to browse available digital issues.
- Tap on the cover of an issue and select "Read" or "Download."
- Log in with your ARRL website username and password. If you do not have an ARRL website username and password, please register here <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.
- Each time you download an issue in the app, it is added to the "My QST Library" to view offline. Note: Before viewing issues offline, you must first initialize each issue online using your ARRL website login.
- To stream embedded video and audio, you must be connected to the Internet.
- This app may send anonymous usage statistics to ARRL and our service providers to help us improve QST and to better meet the needs of our members. To disable sending usage information, turn ON the "Disable Tracking" feature for the QST app in your iOS device settings. For more information, visit the Digital QST FAQ page <http://www.arrl.org/digital-qst-faq> and the ARRL Online Privacy Policy <http://www.arrl.org/online-privacy-policy>.

Using an Android or Windows Mobile Device?

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8> At this time, a native app is only available for Apple iOS devices. Users with Android or Windows devices can access the digital edition of QST from a web browser <http://www.nxtbook.com/fx/archives/view.php?id=4d8f3fb65736c8b1e83e4879a8b0ef57>.
The web version runs in an Internet browser on nearly any device, including desktop or laptop computers, smartphones, tablets and e-book readers.

==> + FCC DENIES ARRL PETITION TO DENY RECONROBOTICS LICENSES, BUT LIMITS DEVICES TO 100 KHZ BANDWIDTH

On November 14, the FCC issued an Order on Reconsideration dismissing a March 2010 Petition for Reconsideration filed by the ARRL that asked the Commission to deny pending Public Safety Pool license applications associated with the ReconRobotics Video and Audio Surveillance System; however, in doing so, the FCC made it clear that the devices may not exceed 100 kHz of bandwidth. The Recon Scout -- manufactured by ReconRobotics -- is a remote-controlled, maneuverable surveillance robot that transmits real-time video surveillance data that operates by FCC waiver in the 70 centimeter band. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-denies-arrl-em-petition-em-to-deny-reconrobotics-licenses-but-limits-devices-to-100-khz-bandwidt>.

==> IARU: HO CHI MINH CITY HOSTS IARU REGION 3 CONFERENCE

Officials from 16 IARU Member Societies in Region 3 attended the IARU Region 3 15th Triennial Conference. Hosted by the Vietnam Amateur Radio Club, the conference took place November 5-9 in Ho Chi Minh City,

Vietnam. The delegates elected a new Region 3 leadership team, appointed regional coordinators and formed two working groups to focus on policy matters and operational and technical matters. These two groups acted on more than 60 documents and recommendations during the conference. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/ho-chi-minh-city-hosts-iaru-region-3-conference>.

==> + CHECK OUT THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF QST

Between tiny tots with their eyes all aglow and Jack Frost nipping at your nose, it's good to escape from all the holiday hullabaloo and open up the latest issue of QST. Whether you're looking for a project that takes you to your workbench, fantasizing of journeys to far-away DX or even dreaming about all the new radio gear that you hope to find under the tree, the December issue of QST has it all. So relax, get out your QST, put your feet up and enjoy all that the holiday season -- and Amateur Radio -- have to offer.

Jack Morgan, KF6T, knows a thing or two about Amateur Radio contests -- especially how tired and sore your voice can be after a 48-hour SSB contest! In his article "Super Simple Digital Voice Keyer," Morgan explains how you can save your voice by using your PC's sound card, a potentiometer and an audio transformer. If you can only have one HF antenna, how do you choose the best one? QST Technical Editor Joel R. Hallas, W1ZR, attempts to demystify the age-old conundrum in his article "Vertical or Horizontal Antennas -- What's Best for You?"

In January 2009, Laura Smith was sworn in as Special Counsel at the FCC, replacing Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who had retired a few months earlier after overseeing Amateur Radio enforcement actions for several years. ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, sat down and talked with Smith in "An Interview with FCC Special Counsel Laura Smith" and found out where we stand with Amateur Radio enforcement today.

Many hams spend all year gearing up for ARRL Field Day, the most popular on-the-air operating event in all of Amateur Radio. For those hardcore Field Day aficionados, the December issue of QST is one of the most anticipated issues all year -- this is the issue with the Field Day results! This year, join ARRL Field Day Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, as he travels through the funny pages to bring readers the annual Field Day results article. You'll also find announcements for upcoming radiosport events, such as the 2012 Straight Key Night, the 2013 RTTY Roundup and the 2013 ARRL International DX Contest (both CW and SSB).

QST Technical Editor Joel R. Hallas, W1ZR, takes a look at the Elecraft KX3 HF and 6 meter QRP transceiver in this month's Product Review. He says this radio "offers a large measure of performance and features in a compact but workable enclosure. While it's a wonderful addition to a campsite or picnic table, the KX3 can also form the basis of a competent home or mobile station with the addition of appropriate accessories."

Of course, there are the usual columns you know and have come to expect in the December QST: Amateur Radio World, Happenings, Hints & Kinks, The Doctor is In, Short Takes, Vintage Radio, How's DX? and more, including lots of new books and products, just in time for the holidays. Look for your December issue in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join, or to renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL web page <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership/>.

==> + DAYTON HAMVENTION ANNOUNCES DX THEME FOR 2013

Throughout its 62 years, the Dayton Hamvention® has showcased the best that Amateur Radio has to offer. Each year, a specific theme -- such as Amateur Radio clubs, global friendship or the advent of digital modes -- spotlights one of the many facets of the Amateur Radio Service. And when Hamvention opens on May 17, 2013, at Hara Arena, the 2013 theme DX Hamvention will reflect an important part of ham radio: the distant contact. "Hamvention is often an important DX destination for amateurs from all over the globe," Hamvention General Chairman Charles Kaiser, KD8JZR, explained. "Working DX is often a mix of magic, conditions and the diligent application of radio theory."

ARRL's large exhibit area at Hamvention, ARRL EXPO, has always included significant attention for on-air DX activities and the participation of many international visitors. "In addition to our many activities at ARRL EXPO -- such as hands-on kit building, forums and membership services -- we are proud to support DXers from all over the world," said ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "We know hams appreciate our on-site QSL card checking services and enjoy being able to drop off their cards for the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau. In recent years, the ARRL exhibit area has included representatives from the International Amateur Radio Union and from our partner radio societies in the UK, Germany, Japan and Qatar." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/dayton-hamvention-announces-dx-theme-for-2013>.

==> + BE A STAR! ENTER THE THIRD ANNUAL ARRL VIDEO CONTEST

<http://www.arrl.org/winners> If you've ever wanted a way to show the world how exciting Amateur Radio can be, here's your chance: The ARRL is sponsoring its Third Annual Video Contest! Here's a chance to put that video camera to use: Shoot a ham radio-related video and send it our way. If your video takes first, second or third place, we'll post it on the ARRL website for everyone to see. We're looking for a few good videos (but only one per ARRL member, please) on any tasteful subject relating to Amateur Radio. Videos will be judged on overall quality and composition, and prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/be-a-star-enter-the-third-annual-arrl-video-contest>.

==> W1AW ANNOUNCES 2012-2013 WINTER OPERATING SCHEDULE

With the switch from Daylight Saving Time to Standard Time earlier this month, W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, has updated the W1AW operating schedule to reflect the change the W1AW operating schedule. The standard times have not changed, but the UTC times have. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/w1aw-announces-2012-2013-winter-operating-schedule> .

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: There is an exciting and dramatic rise in sunspot activity this week. The daily sunspot number was 188 on Monday, November 12 -- higher than it has been in more than a year. The last time the daily sunspot number was as high was on November 9, 2011, when it was 208. Prior to last November, we have to go back nine years -- November 26, 2003 -- into the previous solar cycle to find a number as high. On that date the sunspot number was 209. A coronal mass ejection (CME) on November 13 caused a geomagnetic storm on November 13-14, driving the planetary A index to 33 on November 14. Aurora was visible across Northern United States. The NOAA/USAF prediction on Wednesday, November 14 shows the solar flux at 145 on November 15-18, 140 on November 19-20, down to 135 and 125 on November 21-22, 105 on November 23-24, 100 on November 25-26, and then dropping below 100 until December 3. The predicted planetary A index is 12 on November 15, 10 on November 16-17, 8 on November 18, 5 on November 19 through December 4, and rising to 10 on December 5-8. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, November 16. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> + ARRL HEADQUARTERS TO CLOSE FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS

ARRL Headquarters will be closed November 22 and 23 in observance of Thanksgiving. There will be no W1AW bulletins or code practice transmissions <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> those days. The ARRL Letter <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/> will be published a day early on Wednesday, November 21, but there will be no ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news> on Thursday, November 22. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Monday, November 26 at 8 AM Eastern Standard Time. We wish everyone a safe and bountiful Thanksgiving holiday.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- November 16 -- NCCC Sprint; YO International PSK31 Contest
- November 17 -- CQ SA SSB Contest; Feld Hell Sprint
- November 17-18 -- LZ DX Contest; All Austrian 160 Meter Contest; RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest (CW)
- November 17-19 -- ARRL Sweepstakes Contest (SSB) <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>; North American Collegiate ARC Championship (SSB)

- November 18 -- EPC PSK63 QSO Party; Homebrew and Old Time Equipment
Party
- November 19 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

Next week:

- November 23 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 24-25 -- CQ WW DX Contest (CW)
- November 28 -- SKCC Sprint
- November 28-29 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test
- November 29 -- QRP ARCI Top Band Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- November 17-18 -- ARRL Indiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/indiana-state-convention-fort-wayne-hamfest-com
puter-expo-1>,
Fort Wayne, Indiana
- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-b
ay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-
1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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s>
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communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest
newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

269. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1840 - November 16 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-16 10:00:10 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121116100003.5297033C2F@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 338
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1840 - November 16 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1840 with a release date of November 16, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. China to revise its amateur radio service rules, French radar signals heard on several ham radio bands, Norway affirms new spectrum for its ham radio community, a rescue radio group receives a large grant to get more gear, the Dayton Hamvention announces the theme of Hamvention 2013 and a new ham radio cubesat will blink a holiday message from space on Christmas Eve. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1840 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: CHINA TO REVISE ITS AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

Big amateur radio changes ahead for ham radio in China. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, reports from down-under:

--

According to word from Jim Linton, VK3PC, mandatory membership of the Chinese Radio Sports Association will likely soon be a thing of the past. This as China moves forward under soon to be announced new amateur service regulations.

For the past 30 years, only a sports organization could transmit on the amateur Radio bands. That began on the 29th of March, 1982 with the station BY1PK, at first on CW and with limited spectrum made available for ham radio operations. But this is 2012 and the old system of someone first being a member of a sport-related body before entering amateur radio no longer works and will end. Now clubs and individuals will have their own callsigns throughout the world's most populated country.

Also being considered for emergency communications is a new error-correcting low power data mode for HF radio using Chinese characters, a Software Defined Radio receiver network for noisy locations, an alarm system, VHF and UHF repeaters and overall training.

Along with the revised regulations will be a new entity called the Chinese Radio Amateur Club, that will be solely focused on amateur radio. The new group will deal with the regulations including visitor

licenses, conduct exams and licensing, create band plans, allow nation-wide mobile operation, develop emergency communications infrastructure, amateur satellites, and work with the International Amateur Radio Union.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, in Nelson, New Zealand

--

When enacted, these revised regulations promise to bring China more in line with the rest of amateur radio service regulations world wide. As such don't be too surprised to hear many more mainland China stations on the hambands once the new rules do take effect. (VK3PC)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: HAM RADIO OPPOSED EUROPEAN PLT STANDARD APPROVED

Europe has a new Power Line Communication or PLT standard and hams on the other side of the Atlantic are not very happy. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW reports:

--

Despite opposition from the Radio Society of Great Britain and several other European national ham radio societies, the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization or CENELEC Working Group 11 has voted in favor of a draft standard for what ham radio operators are calling polluting Power Line Communication or PLT apparatus. According to the Radio Society of Great Britain this means the chance of radio interference from P-L-T devices could be 10,000 times higher than the previous standard and holding the potential of ruining people's enjoyment of radio.

A statement on the RSGB website says that one of the reasons why the combined voice of the amateur radio fraternity was not heeded was the absence of complaints reported to and by the national enforcement agencies. As a consequence it is imperative that interference cases are diagnosed and reported to, and pursued with, U-K telecommunications regulator Ofcom if and when they occur.

The statement goes on to note that the RSGB EMC Committee is working with other parties to enable radio amateurs to do this and to build up statistics on the status of complaints. If a significant number of people are affected the organization can then lobby for further revision to the standard. If the devices do not cause publicized problems then the protection provided by this new standard will be deemed adequate.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

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You can read the full RSGB statement at
tinyurl.com/european-PLT-approved. (Southgate)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: FRENCH RADAR ON THE HF HAM BANDS

The IARU Region 1 Monitoring Service reports that French radar is again active near and in the High Frequency ham bands. Recent reports have heard it near 7, 14, 14,259, and 21 MHz transmitting a 20 kHz wide burst system.

But that's not all. Region 1 monitors also report that taxi operators in the Russia Federation, Belarus, Ukraine and Kazakhstan are now using FM in the 28 MHz, 10 meter amateur radio band more than ever. You can read more about both these intruders on-line
tinyurl.com/10-meter-intruders (IARU-R1)

**

RESTRUCTURING: NORWAY AFFIRMS NEW SPECTRUM FOR AMATEUR RADIO OPERATIONS

Its now official. Norway has affirmed news bands for ham radio in that nation. Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, of the RSGB News reports:

--

The Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority has made changes to the Norwegian amateur license regulations.

The major change is that permission has been given to use 472 to 479 kHz with a maximum 1 Watt EIRP, with the former permission to use 493 to 510 kHz removed.

Permission has been given to use 70.1875 to 70.2625MHz, except in the three Norwegian southwest counties of Hordaland, Rogaland and West-Agder, where there still is commercial traffic within this frequency segment.

Other segments allowing 100W transmitter power and maximum 16kHz bandwidth include 70.0625 to 70.0875MHz, 70.3625 to 70.3875MHz and 70.4125 to 70.4625MHz.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, in Nottingham in the U.K.

--

The new rules in Norway are reportedly effective now. (GB2RS)

**

RESCUE RADIO: SOUTH AFRICA HAMNET AIDS IN SEARCH FOR MISSING AIRCRADT

South Africa's HAMNET, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Organization has concluded it's involvement in a cross-border search

and rescue operation for a missing aircraft. This after a light aircraft, on an October 28th flight from Malawi to an airport in South Africa failed to make regular radio contact over Mozambique.

Soon after the plane was reported as missing, the South African Air Rescue Control Centre was advised and requested to assist. HAMNET was called out on Monday, October 29th by the Air Rescue Control Centre to form a team to travel to the region and provide a High Frequency communications link between the two countries. Operations took place on the internationally agreed Emergency Centre of Activity frequencies using the 30 and 20 meter bands.

Unfortunately the search for the missing plane and its occupants was unsuccessful and was scaled back on Saturday November 3rd. At that point the HAMNET team stood down and has now returned home. (IARU Region 1)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FITSAT-1 SCHEDULES CHRISTMAS EVE OPTICAL TRANSMISSION

And there will be a Christmas present of sorts from ham radio in space. On December 24th which is Christmas Eve the students in Japan who built the FITSAT-1 satellite are planning to active the birds LED optical array and flash a message in Morse Code to those of us here on mother Earth.

According to JA6AVG, the students plan to start testing the optical system at the end of November. As such its Morse message beacon may well be visible from Earth with the unaided eye well before the scheduled transmission date.

FITSAT-1 is a CubeSat that was developed by students at the Fukuoka Institute of Technology in Japan. In addition to the optical transmission system the bird carries a CW beacon on 437.250 MHz and a data link on 437.445 MHz. There is also a 5.8 GHz data downlink.

Further information about the FITSAT-1 cubesat is on-line at tinyurl.com/fitsat-christmas-signal. And we will have more ham radio space related news later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report. (FITSAT-1 Team)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WL7CVG repeater serving Alaska's Kenai Peninsula.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: NIAGRA COUNTY NY RACES GETS $7000 GRANT

Some good news for a dedicated rescue radio group. Buffalo dot com reports that the Niagara County New York Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service has received a $7,000 donation from Waste Management, parent company of the CWM Chemical Services.

Jim Callahan of Waste Management made the presentation of the check that will provide the group with equipment for expanding and enhancing its services to Niagara County in the event of a disaster. In doing so Callahan called the RACES hams as being the unsung heroes who are prepared to help communicate through any emergency situation, when other means of communication may be down. (Buffalo.com)

**

ENFORCEMENT: PAGER COMPANY FINE REDUCED TO $7000

The Federal Communications Commission has affirmed a $7000 monetary forfeiture order to Leetek America, Inc. a subsidiary of Lee Technology Korea. This for marketing of an unauthorized pager transmitter system. Jim Davis, W2JKD, has the details:

--

On August 25, 2008, the Enforcement Bureau's Spectrum Enforcement Division issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture or NAL to Leetek in the amount of $14,000. This for its apparent willful and repeated violations of Section 302(b) of the Act and Section 2.803(a) of the Rules in connection with its marketing of two models of unauthorized pager transmitter systems.

The Division's investigation into this matter was initiated by a complaint that Leetek was marketing a pager transmitter system that did not comply with the Rules and was causing interference to primary licensed operators.

Leetek responded to the NAL on September 2, 2008. In its reply, the company repeated the argument that it imported only three units of the LTK-1700CT solely for the purpose of design review and performance testing. Leetek's response also clarified information Leetek submitted to the Division in its response with respect to the LTK-1400S pager transmitter system. It asserted that it never marketed a pager transmitter system with the model number LTK-1400S. Rather that its third party website provider mistyped LTK-1400S as the model number for Leetek's authorized LTK-1400A pager transmitter system. Leetek also said that it never marketed or sold a pager transmitter system with a LTK-1400S model number. According to Leetek, the company was marketing an authorized pager transmitter system called he LTK-1400A, but its third-party website provider misprinted the model number as LTK-1400.

In rendering its final decision, the FCC says that based on the company's statements, which were made under penalty of perjury, it appears that the device mistakenly marketed on Leetek's website under

model number LTK-1400S was properly authorized. Therefore the agency finds that a reduction of the proposed forfeiture is warranted as to that model. However having considered Leetek's response to the proposed fine in light of the applicable statutory factors the FCC concludes that Leetek did willfully and repeatedly violate Section 2.803(a) of the Rules in connection with its marketing of the uncertified LTK-1700CT pager transmitter system, and is therefore liable for a forfeiture in the amount of $7,000.

Im Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

Because this was an affirmed fine, Leetek Payment was given only fifteen calendar days after the release date of this Forfeiture Order to pay the amount in full. That period is now past. If the forfeiture was not paid within the period specified, the FCC said that the case may be referred to the U.S. Department of Justice for enforcement. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: EXTENSION OF HEART MONITORING DEVICE GRANTED

The FCC has granted a request by Boston Scientific Corporation to extend the existing waiver of Section 15.205 of its rules to continue tests of the company's Cognis cardiac device.

The FCC says that granting Boston Scientifics' request will permit this device to continue to use the 90 to 110 kHz frequency band while Boston Scientific completes its ongoing MultiSENSE clinical trial, begun in 2010, in which it is using the Cognis device to collect physiologic data related to patients' worsening heart failure.

The present waiver is scheduled to expire on November 17, 2012, and the extension will permit the continued manufacture and marketing of the subject devices until December 31, 2013, when the referenced clinical trial is expected to complete its enrollment. (FCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: EPISODE 4 OF YOUTH IN AMATEUR RADIO PODCAST AVAILABLE

Episode 4 of the Youth in Amateur Radio Podcast is now available for download. This month's topics include getting on the air and how repeaters work. The report can be downloaded on yarphams.com or on itunes, or the producers RSS feed. As always please feel free to contact the production team with comments and suggestions. They can be reached by e-mail to Joe Andrews in care of kd0los (at) yahoo (dot) com. (KD0LOS)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: MICHAEL J. OWEN AWARD CREATED BY IARU

Some names in the news. A new Michael J. Owen, VK3KI, Award has been created and announced at the recently concluded IARU Region 3 Conference held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The purpose of the award is to recognize an individual or individuals that best exemplify the dedication and hard work of International Amateur Radio Union volunteers.

At the same conference the Wireless Institute of Australia proposed that an annual award or trophy be introduced in Michael Owen's name for the highest Region 3 individual operator score in the IARU High Frequency Contest. It reported that the proposal was well received and the details are to be announced at a later date. (RSGB)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: G4SWX NAMED NEW RSGB VHF MANAGER

The RSGB has announced the appointment of John Regnault, G4SWX as the societies new VHF Manager. Regnault is described as an active amateur on the VHF and UHF bands, a long standing designer and home builder of VHF equipment and a contributor to the RSGB publication RadCom. He replaces David Butler, G4ASR, who took on the job temporarily following the death of Terry Stevens, G8DKS, earlier in the year. (RSGB)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: GREG WALDEN, W7EQI, RE-ELECTED TO CONGRESS

Congressman Greg Walden, W7EQI, who is the chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Communications Subcommittee has been re-elected by a wide margin in Oregon's second district. Walden pulled almost 70% of the vote, according to unofficial results from the Oregon Secretary of State. (Published News Reports)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NEWSLINE'S WA6ITF TO APPEAR ON ECHOLINK NET NOV. 17

Amateur Radio Newsline producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, will be the featured guest on the Saturday night, November 17th edition of the Echolink Newsline Net. The net meets every Saturday at 9 p.m. Eastern on the Dodropin conference server which is Echolink Node number 355800. According to Steve Sercrest, W8WFO, this is not the original name for the gathering. Rather, because it's been running our weekly report for such a long time that those signing in began calling it the Amateur Radio Newsline or Newsline network. Again, you are welcome to join in the net conference at Echolink node 355800 on Saturday night, November 17th at 9 p.m. Eastern to hear Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, talk about numerous things in ham radio and do is best to answer your questions. Bill says he hopes to meet many of you there. (W8WFO)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: BOEING UNVEILS EMP DRONE

>From our technology page, it appears as if science fiction has become a military fact. This after a successful missile test has ushered in a new era of warfare in which the military can take out electronic targets without destroying a single building or harming human beings. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is here with the story:

--

According to news reports, back on October 16th an experimental missile called CHAMP fired bursts of high power microwave energy at an unoccupied site to damage computers and other electronic systems during a test at the Utah Test and Training Range. The Counter Electronics High Power Microwave Advanced Missile Project flew over the Utah test site and brought down the compound's entire spectrum of electronic systems, apparently without producing any other damage at all. Even cameras recording the test was shut down.

Keith Coleman is the CHAMP program manager for Boeing Phantom Works. He says that in the near future this technology may be used to render an enemy's electronic and data systems useless even before the first troops or aircraft arrive.

The idea of using microwaves or electromagnetic pulses to knock out electronic systems without having to reduce cities or military bases to rubble first arose during Cold War nuclear tests. There scientists found that explosions created electromagnetic pulses that damaged some civilian power grids and other facilities.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

It will be interesting to see where the development of this new electronic warfare device goes in years to come. (Science OnLine, Business Insider, Discovery News, others)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: WORK PROCEEDING ON RECOVERY OF AO-27

Amsat Oscar 27 is down but not out. This according to controllers who are working to return of the satellites FM repeater back to service after it stopped responding on October 5th. Heres the back story.

In early October AO-27 was restored to running on its primary bootloader program. Control operators were able to turn on the Transmitter for a short time on several occasions. Also required were multiple recoveries the stuck AFSK modem.

During recovery efforts AO-27 crashed once again on October 16. The command team again recovered the satellite to the bootloader state. It was also recovered from another occurrence of the AFSK modem problem and they again performed another software upload.

On October 18 the transmitter was left on in an attempt to discharge the batteries with the hope that faults could be cleared. Once the battery was recharged the high-level software aboard AO-27 ran for a few seconds before locking up. The team was able to reset it back to the bootloader once again. Telemetry indicate AO-27 is locking up while fetching telemetry from the hardware. As such, controllers say that it does not look like there will be a quick resolution to this crash.

In the meantime the AO-27 controllers are asking the ham radio public not to attempt to use the AO-27 if you hear it in Amalog mode. This to prevent interfering with the command team's recovery efforts. (AMSAT)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: JAPAN SCHEDULES FIRST LAUNCH OF NEW EPSILON ROCKET

Japan is scheduled to launch its first Epsilon solid-fueled rocket next August or September. The flight will deploy a planetary telescope while on-orbit while demonstrating new low-cost rocket assembly and control techniques, the Japanese space agency announced last week.

The Epsilon program is designed to cut in half the cost of Japanese small satellite launches. Japan's M5 rocket, which launched seven times before retiring in 2006, cost $94 million per flight. Engineers designed the Epsilon rocket with a simplified control system, and the vehicle's own computers will autonomously monitor the status of its systems during countdown.

Only a handful of engineers with laptop computers are required on the launch control team. The Epsilon is also designed to launch after only seven days of assembly on the launch pad, reducing labor and overhead costs. (ANS)

**

CONTEST CORNER: RESULTS OF 2012 ARRL JUNE VHF CONTEST ON LINE

Sean Kutzko, KX9X, who is the Leagues Contest Branch Manager, says that the results for the 2012 ARRL June VHF Contest are now available online. If you took part and want to know where you placed, you can find out by taking your web browser to www.arrl.org/contest-results-articles. (KX9X)

**

SWL NEWS: L.A. INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT'S TIS STATION GOES DARK

If you are an A-M broadcast band DX'er and have not been able to hear the Travelers Information Station on 530 kHz at Los Angeles International Airport theres a good reason. It has reportedly been off the air for a month or so. No word as to why, but it does open up that frequency in the Southwest United States for DX'ing a 50 Kilowatt religious station in Turks and Caicos islands that operates on the same frequency. (CGC)

**

SWL NEWS: UK REGULATOR OFCOM CANCELS 648 KHZ BBC NOV

British telecommunications regulator Ofcom has issued a notice of variation the Wireless Telegraphy Act to Babcock Communications Ltd. This to remove Babcock's authorization to the frequency of 648 kHz previously used to broadcast the BBC World Service.

Subject to international co-ordination, this frequency will now be available for use by community radio licensing in various parts of the UK, in addition to FM and other AM frequencies that are already potentially available for this purpose.

However, some note that the characteristics of 648 kHz is at the lower end of the AM broadcast spectrum and therefore requiring relatively large towers and transmitter sites. This they say may make it less suitable for community radio than other AM frequencies higher up in the Medium Wave band.

A Notice of Variation in the UK is very much like a Special Temporary Authorization or STA issued here in the United States by our FCC.

You can read the Ofcom announcement on line at tinyurl.com/uk-nov-cancel (GB2RS)

**

DX

In DX, word that F8FQX will be active from Cameroon as TJ3SN next 3 to 4 years. He will be operational on High Frequency bands plus 6 meters using various modes. QSL via IZ1BZV direct or electronically using Logbook of the World.

Members of F6KOP team and others will be on the air from Uganda next February 6th to the 18th as 5X8C. They will be active on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via the bureau or electronically using Logbook of the World.

AA9A will be active from Antigua Island February 10th to the 20th as V24A. His operation will include the 2013 ARRL DX CW Contest. No bands or modes mentioned. QSL via home call

HB9TUZ will be active as 8Q7MS from Gangehi Island Resort on the North Ari Atoll Male in the Republic of the Maldives from December 26th to

January 3rd. His operation will be on 80 through 10 meters using SSB only. QSL electronically only using eQSL.

Lastly the 2012 operation 5X1EME operation from Uganda has been approved for DXCC credit. If you have a card for this operation you can submit it to checkers to be added to your DXCC total.

(Above courtesy of various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: DAYTON 2013 IS A DX HAMVENTION

The Dayton Hamvention has announced its theme for 2013. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl, Lasek, K9BIK, has the details:

--

When the 2013 Dayton Hamvention opens its doors next May 17th the theme will be that of it being the DX Hamvention. This according to General Chairman Charles Kaiser who says that this name will reflect the distant contact which is an important part of ham radio.

Kaiser says that the Dayton Hamvention is often an important DX destination for amateurs from around the globe to visit. Also, working DX is often a mix of band conditions, the diligent application of radio theory and of coarse a little bit of magic.

Kaiser noted that many attendees return to Dayton each year to meet other hams that they have talked to on the radio. He says that the quest for that distant contact advances amateur radio on many levels so the Hamvention team is honoring DX in all of its forms this year.

In the same press release, Kaiser announced that Jim Tiderman, N8IDS, will serve as his assistant General Chairman for 2013. Kaiser says that Tiderman has been active in Hamvention for many years and brings a natural leadership style to the Hamvention Team.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, not far from Dayton in Zion Illinois.

--

Hamvention 2013 will take place next May 17th to the 19th at its traditional home at the Hara Arena in suburban Trotwood, Ohio For more information please visit www.hamvention.org on the World-Wide-Web or e-mail media@hamvention.org. And as always, we will se you there. (Dayton Hamvention)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, World Disaster Report, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin,

Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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270. FCC Daily Digest 11/20/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-20 17:50:20 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524929-2012.11.20-12.12.30--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 339
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 222 November 2
0, 2012

[...]

AMENDMENT OF PARTS 1, 2, 15, 74, 78, 87, 90, AND 97 OF THE COMMISSION'S RU
LES REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACTS OF THE WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICAT
ION CONFERENCE (GENEVA, 2007) (WRC-07), OTHER ALLOCATION ISSUES, AND RELATE
D RULE UPDATES. Proposed to amend Parts 1, 2, 74, 78, 87, 90, and 97 of t
he Commission's rules to implement allocation decisions from the WRC-07 con
cerning portions of the radio frequency spectrum between 108 MHz and 20.2 G
Hz and to make certain updates to FCC rules. (Dkt No. 12-338). Action by:
The Commission. Adopted: 11/15/2012 by NPRM. (FCC No. 12-140). OET htt
p://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-140A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-140A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-140A1.txt

[...]

271. The ARRL Letter for November 21, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-21 20:37:48 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121121174514.B3C7727CA34@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 340
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

November 21, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- ARRL Members in Hudson Division Elect New Director; Northwestern
Division Re-elects Director
- FCC Seeks to Assign Entire Amateur Portion of 160 Meter Band to
Primary Status to Amateur Radio Service, Proposes New LF Amateur Band
at 135.7-137.8 kHz
- Amateur Radio in Space: Three Hams Return to Earth from ISS
- On the Air: Top Off the Year on Top Band in the ARRL 160 Meter
Contest
- Silent Key: Former "How's DX?" Conductor Rod Newkirk, W9BRD (SK)
- Section Manager News: Monte Simpson, K2MLS, Appointed ARRL Western
Washington Section Manager
- Solar Update
- Be a Star! Enter the Third Annual ARRL Video Contest
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

ARRL Headquarters will be closed November 22 and 23 in observance of
Thanksgiving. There will be no W1AW bulletins or code practice
transmissions <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> those days.
The ARRL Letter <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/> will be published a
day early on Wednesday, November 21, but there will be no ARRL Audio
News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news> on Thursday, November 22.
ARRL Headquarters will reopen Monday, November 26 at 8 AM Eastern
Standard Time. We wish everyone a safe and bountiful Thanksgiving
holiday.

==> ARRL MEMBERS IN HUDSON DIVISION ELECT NEW DIRECTOR; NORTHWESTERN
DIVISION RE-ELECTS DIRECTOR

On November 16, ballots were counted in the races for Director in
the Hudson Division and for Director and Vice Director in the
Northwestern Division. This year, there were only three contested races
```

for Director or Vice Director in the five Divisions holding elections. In the Hudson Division, Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, defeated incumbent Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF, for the top slot in that Division. In the Northwestern Division, Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, defeated William Balzarini, KL7BB, for Director, while James Pace, K7CEX, was elected Vice Director in a three-way race. Terms for Directors and Vice Directors begin at noon on January 1, 2013 and run for three years. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-members-in-hudson-division-elect-new-director-northwestern-division-gets-new-vice-director>.

==> FCC SEEKS TO ASSIGN ENTIRE AMATEUR PORTION OF 160 METER BAND TO PRIMARY STATUS TO AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE, PROPOSES NEW LF AMATEUR BAND AT 135.7-137.8 KHZ

On Tuesday, November 20, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ET Docket No. 12-338) that proposes to amend Parts 1, 2, 74, 78, 87, 90 and 97 of the Commission's rules. Part 97 governs the Amateur Radio Service. These changes will implement allocation decisions from the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) that concern those portions of the radio frequency spectrum between 108 MHz and 20.2 GHz and make certain updates to the rules in this frequency range. Most of the NPRM does not concern the Amateur Radio Service, but the FCC is requesting comments on the three parts that do: changing the allocation to the amateur portion of the 160 meter band, allocating a new Amateur Service band at 135.7-137.8 kHz and cleaning up the rules for the 10.0-10.5 GHz band. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-assign-entire-amateur-portion-of-160-meter-band-to-primary-status-to-amateur-radio-serv>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: THREE HAMS RETURN TO EARTH FROM ISS

Shortly before 9 PM EST on Sunday, November 18 (0200 UTC Monday, November 19), a Soyuz spacecraft carrying Expedition 33 Commander Sunita Williams, KD5PLB, and Flight Engineers Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP, and Aki Hoshide, KE5DNI, landed in the steppes of Kazakhstan, returning them safely to Earth from the International Space Station (ISS) after 127 days in space.

While aboard the ISS, Williams, Malenchenko and Hashide completed 39 contacts with schools via the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) project. According to NASA ISS Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, this ties with Expedition 15 for the fourth highest number of contacts. In 2011, Expedition 26 -- led by Scott Kelly -- set the record for having the most ARISS contacts at 73. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/three-hams-return-to-earth-from-iss>.

==> ON THE AIR: TOP OFF THE YEAR ON TOP BAND IN THE ARRL 160 METER CONTEST

While Solar Cycle 24 is making the high bands the focal point for HF operators, 160 meters -- Top Band -- is still chock full of DX. There's no better time to get on 160 meters than the ARRL 160 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/160-meter>, November 30-December 2.

The ARRL 160 Meter Contest is an all-CW event, with ARRL/RAC Sections and DXCC entities used as multipliers. If you live in a rare Section -- such as North Dakota, Nebraska or any of the rare Sections from the November Sweepstakes contests -- everyone will be seeking you. Hams in Ontario (VE3) will have a new role in this year's contest: The split of Ontario into four new sections -- Ontario East (ONE), Ontario North (ONN), Ontario South (ONS) and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) -- will give everybody a few new multipliers to hunt for on Top Band.

In this contest, Alaska (KL7) and Hawaii (KH6) can be worked by both DX and US/Canadian stations, as can the Caribbean US possessions (KP1-KP5) and all of the Pacific Ocean territories (KH0-KH9). No antennas for 160? Don't be discouraged! According to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, if you don't have an antenna for 160, put up a temporary length of wire or try to load up whatever you have through an antenna tuner; even a 40 meter dipole through a tuner will make some QSOs.

Since ARRL and RAC Sections are worth 2 points each and count as multipliers, the ARRL 160 Meter Contest is a good way to begin working -- or finishing up! -- your Worked All States Award (WAS <http://www.arrl.org/was>). But don't forget about those DX stations -- each DXCC entity is a multiplier and is worth 5 points.

The 2012 ARRL 160 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/160-meter> runs from 2200 UTC Friday, November 30 through 1559 UTC Sunday, December 2. Complete rules and entry forms may be found here <http://www.arrl.org/contests>. Logs must be e-mailed <160meter@arrl.org> or postmarked no later than 1600 UTC Tuesday, January 1, 2013. Paper logs should be sent to ARRL 160 Meter Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

==> SILENT KEY: FORMER "HOW'S DX?" CONDUCTOR ROD NEWKIRK, W9BRD (SK)

Rod Newkirk, W9BRD/VA3ZBB, of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada -- who penned the QST column "How's DX?" from 1947-1978 -- passed away on Monday, November 19 after a long illness. Newkirk was credited with coining the term "Elmer," as well as for his humorous take on DX in his column, especially with limericks in his DX Hoggery and Poetry Depreciation Society and the accompanying cartoons of Jeeves by Phil "Gil" Gildersleeve, W1CJD (SK).

The term "Elmer" -- meaning someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams -- first appeared in QST in Newkirk's March 1971 "How's DX?" column, where he wrote that "[t]oo frequently one hears a sad story in this little nutshell: 'Oh, I almost got a ticket, too, but Elmer, W9XYZ, moved away and I kind of lost interest.' Sure, the guy could have burned through on his own, maybe, but he, like

others, wound up an almost-ham. No more Elmer. We need those Elmers. All the Elmers, including the ham who took the most time and trouble to give you a push toward your license, are the birds who keep this great game young and fresh." Newkirk was probably not trying to coin a term at the time, but the name stuck, becoming a general term for the mentors Newkirk called "the unsung fathers of ham radio." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/former-how-s-dx-conductor-rod-newkirk-w9brd-sk>.

==> SECTION MANAGER NEWS: MONTE SIMPSON, K2MLS, APPOINTED ARRL WESTERN WASHINGTON SECTION MANAGER

Monte Simpson, K2MLS, of Bremerton, has been appointed ARRL Western Washington Section Manager, effective December 31, 2012. Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, made the appointment after current Western Washington Section Manager Jim Pace, K7CEX, was elected as ARRL Northwestern Division Vice Director on November 16. Pace has served as Western Washington Section Manager since October 2007. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/monte-simpson-k2mls-appointed-arrl-western-washington-section-manager>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: The strong solar activity continued this week. In last week's bulletin, the average daily sunspot number on November 8-14 was 104.9, but in the six days since then -- November 15-20 -- the average was 135.5, making for a nice increase. With the solar flux, the average over the previous period was 129.5, and in the six days since then, it increased to 138.6. The latest prediction from NOAA/USAF on Tuesday, November 20, has the solar flux at 140 on November 21, 135 on November 22-23, 130 on November 24-25, 125 on November 26-27, 120 on November 28, and back down to 110 on November 29-December 1. The planetary A index is predicted to be 5 on November 21-22, 10 on November 23-24, 7 on November 25-26, and down to 5 on November 27-December 4. On November 19, Jon Jones, N0JK, in Wichita, Kansas reported fun on 6 and 10 meters: "I heard the W4CHA/b in grid square EL88 on 50.079 MHz via E skip around 1740 UTC. No live ops around. About 10 minutes earlier, I worked the PT0S DXpedition while on fixed mobile on 10 meters SSB. I was running 100 W and a mag mount whip antenna on the car. PT0S peaked up to 10 over S-9. I was on a high ridge with a clear shot to PT0S across the Wakarusa River Valley, which helped." Look for more on the ARRL website on Monday, November 26. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> BE A STAR! ENTER THE THIRD ANNUAL ARRL VIDEO CONTEST

If you've ever wanted a way to show the world how exciting Amateur Radio can be, here's your chance: The ARRL is sponsoring its Third Annual Video Contest! Here's a chance to put that video camera to use:

Shoot a ham radio-related video and send it our way. If your video takes first, second or third place, we'll post it on the ARRL website for everyone to see. We're looking for a few good videos (but only one per ARRL member, please) on any tasteful subject relating to Amateur Radio. Videos will be judged on overall quality and composition, and prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/be-a-star-enter-the-third-annual-arrl-video-contest>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- November 23 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 24-25 -- CQ WW DX Contest (CW)
- November 28 -- SKCC Sprint
- November 28-29 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test
- November 29 -- QRP ARCI Top Band Sprint

Next week:

- November 30 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 30-December 2 -- ARRL 160 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/160-meter>
- December 1 -- TARA RTTY Melee; Wake-Up! QRP Sprint; TOPS Activity Contest
- December 1-2 -- ARRL EME Contest <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>
- December 2 -- 10 Meter RTTY Contest; SARL Digital Contest
- December 4 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-bay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#!/edit-info-email_subscription

s>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org>. Follow us on Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

272. Re: Hurricane Sandy and ARES

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-22 01:25:20 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <50ad1245$0$65870$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 341

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <509bff8e$0$18289$540ea2cf@novia.net> Paul W. Schleck <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>"
writes:

>-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
>Hash: SHA1

>In <xxx-08E318.19080905112012@nntp.aioe.org> Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> writes:

>> I haven't heard any ARES activity related to the hurricane. Were
>>there any HF nets? Is there any activity coming out of the areas that
>>are still without power? Does ARES still exist, other than on paper?

>>--
>>Klystron

>Item of interest about this thread just posted to QRZ:

>//
>HamRadioNow: Hurricane Sandy Follow-Up

>Posted: 07 Nov 2012 07:37 AM PST
>http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?367514-HamRadioNow-Hurricane-Sandy-Follow-Up&goto=ne
wpost

[...]

Also a detailed write-up, including a lessons-learned "hotwash," about
ARES participation in emergency management for Hurricane Sandy was just
posted in this month's edition of the ARRL ARES E-Letter, available from
the web:

http://www.arrl.org/ares-el?issue=2012-11-21

and just posted to rec.radio.info with Subject:

The ARES E-Letter for November 21, 2012

and Message-ID:

<20121121064609.AEDF429C2A3@bmail.arrl.org>

(73, Paul, K3FU)

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net

http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlCtEiQACgkQ6Pj0az779o7ougCdEDZrlVf9a+Im1PnB0oa5hP/W
cqMAn3K6suh2G+6ua4ZXmCcs1eQI4BIl
=cqo2
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

273. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-22 07:00:05 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1353567601@panix.com>
Source record: 342
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

274. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-22 07:05:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1353567900@panix.com>
Source record: 343
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

275. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1841 - November 23 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-23 10:00:22 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121123100003.15F2C33C23@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 344
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1841 - November 23 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1841 with a release date of
November 23, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. Hams in China develop a new digital protocol
based on their own written language while mystery signals are being
heard on the High Frequency bands coming from that nation. Find out
the details are on these stories and more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm)
report number 1841 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEW CHINESE DATA MODE CP-16 ANNOUNCED

China makes news again this week with word that hams in that nation
have developed their own new data mode. One based on characters in the
Chinese alphabet. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has
the details:

--

Up until now, most amateur radio data modes have been based around the
English alphabet. The problem is that does not work well for languages
that are built around graphic characters rather than letters. Because
of this the Chinese Radio Amateurs Club has been working since 2011 on
a project to develop a new data mode called CP-16, which stands for
Chinese character Pattern of 16 x 16 dot-matrixes.

To achieve the goal of allowing easy communication at very low signal
to noise ratio, CP-16 is designed to directly transmit the graphic
image of Chinese a character one line at a time at about 10
milliseconds per line but adjustable according to propagation and other
conditions. This makes the total transmission speed of 2 to 5
characters per second, which is suitable for real-time reading.

To make the system work, CP-16 uses 16 on-off keyed audio carriers
spaced at 17 Hz intervals, with the total bandwidth under 400 Hz. A
CP-16 message can be received by any Software Defined Receiver or the
combination of an ordinary SSB receiver and a computer equipped with
any type of S-D-R audio analyzing software that produces the
traditional waterfall display. The text will be directly shown on the
waterfall graph. Designers say that the human brain can then easily
filter out all sorts of noise and correctly pick out the character.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

A paper on the work was presented by the Chinese Radio Amateurs Club to the International Amateur Radio Union Region 3 conference held recently in Vietnam. It can be seen at tinyurl.com/CP16-data. (IARU Region 3)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: MYSTERY CHINESE SIGNALS BEING HEARD ON HF BANDS

Wolfgang Hadel, DK2OM, who is the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System coordinator reports that there are some strange signals coming from China and making their homes on various parts of the Amateur Service spectrum. DK2OM says that since October 25th hams have been hearing from mysterious signals on 7, 14, 21 and 21.010 MHz. He notes that they are also audible in the shortwave spectrum at 15, 18, 19 and 20 MHz as well.

DK2OM says that initially the A3E signals sounded like grunt or cow mooing. Now reports are that thy have become very strong multi-tone signals with a carrier and both sidebands and heard every morning. He speculates that this night become kind of special kind of encrypted broadcast or a new generation of Over the Horizon radar but at the moment its actual purpose is unknown.

For further details visit www.iarums-r1.org/ and look under "Latest Intruder News". There you can also find a link to a recording of this new intruder to the High Frequency bands. (IARU-R1)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: RUSSIAN TAXIS ON 15 METERS

And here's a rather strange one. A taxi dispatch system seems to have set up shop on 15 Meters in Russia. This as DK2OM confirms a report of a taxi company in the Russian Federation is transmitting FM around the clock on 21.404.2 MHz. He says you can often hear a female voice organizing the business. (IARU-R1)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NASA PHONESAT COMING SOON TO HAM RADIO

Scientists at NASA's Ames Research Center have built the most affordable ham band satellite to date. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Embee, KB3TZD, has the details:

--

The $3,500 orbital device is a cubesat the size of a coffee cup that uses an off-the-shelf Nexus One smartphone as a central processor and an inexpensive off the shelf radio for communications with the ground.

Called PhoneSat 1, the tiny bird is scheduled to launch by the end of this year. Once on-orbit it will transmit back photos of Earth on an amateur radio band for 10 days, or until the battery dies.

Subsequent iterations will be capable of much more. For example, PhoneSat 2.0 will have a two-way S-band radio transponder which most satellites use to communicate with the ground and solar panels for extended life.

More on PhoneSat 1 is on-line at tinyurl.com/phonesat-one. An overview of the entire NASA PhoneSat mission can be found at tinyurl.com/phone-sat-project. At airtime, exact operating frequencies for these tiny birds has not been announced.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heather Embee, KB3TZD, near Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

We will have more space related ham radio news later on in this weeks newscast. (CGC, W7RNA, AI9Q)

**

ENFORCEMENT: US AND MEXICO JOIN FORCES TO COUNTER CROSS BORDER TRAFFICKING OF STOLEN MOBILE DEVICES

Its going to get a lot harder to activate a stolen smart prone or other broadband device in both the United States or Mexico. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

--

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski has announced the signing of a new bilateral agreement with Mexican Communications Under-Secretary Hector Olavarria Tapia. This to combat the theft and cross-border trafficking of mobile devices between the United States and Mexico.

The agreement builds further on the FCC's `PROTECTS Initiative', and the recent participation of U.S. and Mexican mobile providers in an international stolen device database. This database will prevent mobile devices stolen in U.S. cities from being re-activated in Mexico, and stolen Mexican devices being re-activated in the U.S. market. U.S. carriers were able to join the database from October 31st.

But it does not end there. The agreement also commits the FCC and Mexico's Secretariat of Communications and Transport to extend their inter-agency cooperation to crack down on the international trafficking of stolen mobile devices through a series of new action steps using technology and transparency. Among other measures, Chairman Genachowski and Under-Secretary Olavarr&#65533;a agreed that the respective agencies will closely track, analyze, and report progress in preventing mobile device theft.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

Both the United States and Mexican telecommunications agencies will also develop and share best practices with respect to theft prevention and consumer education. (FCC)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the KM6DF repeater serving Santa Maria, California

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: DEMOCRATIC LAWMAKERS WANT HEARING ON HURRICANE SANDY COMMS FAILURES

A group of top Democrats on the House Energy and Commerce Committee is calling for a hearing to be held on the effect Hurricane Sandy had on the reliability of Internet, mobile, telephone and other communications networks. This after the massive storm whipped across the East Coast.

In a letter sent to committee chairman Representative Fred Upton and Communications and Technology sub-panel chairman Representative Greg Walden, W7EQI, the Democrats emphasized that network outages put lives at risk and noted that the storm knocked out 25 percent of cell towers in the affected areas. They argue that a hearing would let lawmakers examine vulnerabilities found in wireless and mobile networks during the storm and help with preparation for the next one. The lawmakers said they also want to examine the performance of wireless networks during and after the storm. (The Hill)

**

RADIO LAW: ZONECASTING TO BE TRIED ON THE FM BAND IF FCC SAYS OK

Something new may soon be coming to the FM broadcast band in the United States. This if a proposed system called ZoneCasting proves out its proposed technology.

ZoneCasting is the result of research and development by a company known as Geo-Broadcast Solutions. It proposes to use a series of booster transmitters to give FM radio stations the ability to divide their coverage areas into geographic zones and "geo-target" their advertising and programming. Geo-Broadcast Solutions says its ZoneCasting system uses GPS and mobile broadband technologies to slice up the FM signal but avoid interference via a single-frequency network made up of FM boosters.

To allow the system to work, the company has asked the FCC to modify its current rule that prohibits booster stations from originating programming. A booster operates on the same frequency as an FM station's main channel and is used to improve signal within the station's coverage contour.

The company and Harris are partnering on the first commercial test, which is expected to launch early next year at WRMF-FM in Palm Beach, Florida. Broadcast engineers say that limiting interference between a main channel signal and booster can be a challenge. Geo-Broadcast Solutions said the purpose of the test at WRMF is to prove ZoneCasting will not cause that type of a problem. (RW)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FOUR UNLICENSED FLORIDA STATION OPERATORS HAVE FINES AFFIRMED

Four operators of unlicensed broadcast stations in Florida have had proposed fines ranging from $10,000 to $20,000 each affirmed by the FCC. This is because none of them responded to Notices of Apparent Liability that were issued to them last summer.

The four unlicensed operators are identified by the regulatory agency as Damian Anthony Ojouku Allen, Michael William Downer, McArthur Bussey and Burt Byng. As a result of their failure to communicate back to the FCC the agency has upheld a total of $65,000 in fines and issued Forfeiture Orders.

Downer and Allen were fined $20,000 each for operating unauthorized stations on 101.1MHz in Pompano Beach and 102.1 MHz in Lauderhill. Bussey was told he has to pay$15,000 for operating on 89.1 MHz in Fort Lauderdale while Byng received a $10,000 penalty for operating an unauthorized facility on 107.1 in Miami.

As is usual in these cases, each was given 30 days to pay the fine or to file an appeal. If they fail to do either the cases may be turned over to the Justice Department for collection. (FCC, RW)

**

ENFORCEMENT: ALLEGED COPPER THIEVES CHARGED IN OHIO

Federal officials in Cleveland, Ohio, have charged 28 year old Thomas M. Carbone and 23 year old Katie M. Stanton with the malicious destruction of federally-licensed communications lines. U.S. Attorney Steve Dettelbach said that the defendants are accused of allegedly breaking into and seriously damaging radio towers.

The indictment charges that on or about August 17 to 18, 2012, Carbone and Stanton unlawfully entered the property of Radio One in North Royalton, Ohio, and willfully and maliciously destroyed and removed copper material from four radio station towers on the property. According to the indictment, this unlawful removal of copper depleted the signal strength of the radio station, thereby impeding its ability

to broadcast emergency messages. As such emergency repairs cost nearly $11,000 while permanent repairs will cost an estimated $125,000.

The indictment also charges that Carbone and Stanton conspired together to commit these unlawful acts. (CGC, Published News Reports)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAPPY 20th BIRTHDAY TO REC.RADIO.INFO

A very happy birthday to the popular Usenet newsgroup rec.radio.info which is about to turn 20. This with the first articles having appeared back in January of 1993.

Usenet is an electronic discussion and bulletin system that predates much of the Internet. It later began using the Internet to carry its discussion categories, known as newsgroups. Amateur radio was one of the very first topics to have these newsgroups.

The rec.radio.info newsgroup carries a wide range of bulletins, announcements, and other informational articles about all kinds of radio. These include amateur, shortwave, and domestic broadcasting all of which are submitted by its readers and selected by its moderation team. Articles from rec.radio.info suitable for amateur radio transmission are also relayed to the amateur packet radio bulletin board service network.

The rec.radio.info newsgroup can be accessed using a newsreader and subscription to a News Service Provider. A web-based interface to Usenet newsgroups, including rec.radio.info, is available from Google Groups at groups.google.com. (K3FU, K9YA)

**

SOCIAL SCENE: HAMFEST INDIA 2012 TO HOLD US LICENSE EXAMS

Hamfest India 2012 is in the process of organizing a USA amateur radio license exams session on for this December 16th in city of Radakrishnan. Planners say that they are trying to find a location near to the hamfest venue with the exact location to be updated as soon as its known.

All the three classes of United States licenses will be tested. As anywhere else, applicants must present a photo identification of whom they and pay the exam fee of $15 or 850 Rupee in Indian currency. Walk-ins allowed and results will be made known to each applicant on the same day.

Oversight for this exam session will be by the ARRL VEC. More information is on-line at tinyurl.com/us-exams-in-india. (AB9US)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: THREE ASTRO-HAMS RETURN TO EARTH

Some names in the news. First up are ISS Expedition 33 Commander Suni Williams, KD5PLB, and Flight Engineers Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP, and Aki Hoshide, KE5DNI. All three returned to Earth on Monday, November 19th after 127 days in space.

The descent and landing took over 3.5 hours and occurred at 5:56 am U-T-C. This with a successful touchdown to the north-east of the town of Arkalyk in the Ukraine.

Expedition 34 arrived at in October is now in charge of ISS operations. It consists of Russian cosmonauts Oleg Novitsky and Evgeny Tarelkin, as well as NASA astronaut Kevin Ford, KF5GPP. They will spend five months on the orbiting laboratory. (NASA, Southgate, published news reports)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: ARRL DIVISION ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, who has been elected the new Director of the ARRL's Hudson Division. Lisenco of Brooklyn New York handily defeated incumbent Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF, for the top slot in that Division.

Meantime in the Northwestern Division, incumbent Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, defeated challenger William Balzarini, KL7BB, to retain his Directors seat. James Pace, K7CEX, was elected as Vice Director in a three-way race.

Ballots were counted on November 16th. Those standing for election in other divisions were unchallenged. Terms for all Directors and Vice Directors elected or re-elected begin at noon on January 1, 2013 and run for three years. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: WALDEN TO CHAIR NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Newly re-elected Oregon Representative Greg Walden, W7EQI, says he will remain chairman of the House Subcommittee that oversees communications and technology policy. This as the former radio station group owner is being promoted within the Republican party leadership in Congress.

In addition to his other duties, W7EQI will chair the National Republican Congressional Committee. Elected to the post by House GOP members, the National Republican Congressional Committee chairman works with House leadership to set the agenda of that body. The committee also coordinates national efforts to elect Republicans to the House. (Published news reports)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: 2012 ARRL UHF CONTEST RESULTS POSTED

Sean Kutzko, KX9X, who is the League's Contest Branch Manager says that the results for the 2012 ARRL August UHF Contest are now on-line. You can view them at www.arrl.org/contest-results-articles. (ARRL)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: INCREASING EFFICIENCY OF WIRELESS NETWORKS

Professors at the University of California, Riverside Bourns College of Engineering have apparently developed a way of doubling the efficiency of wireless networks. According to researchers Yingbo Hua and Ping Liang it appears the doubling of efficiency could be achieved by using full-duplex with "time-domain transmit beam forming." They say that the latter digitally creates a time-domain cancellation signal, couples it to the radio frequency front-end to allow the radio to hear much weaker incoming signals while transmitting strong outgoing signals at the same frequency and same time.

Wireless Design says scientists Hua and Liang see applications in cognitive radio. They say that this is a type of wireless communication in which a transceiver can detect which communication channels are in use and which are not, and move into vacant channels while avoiding occupied ones. You can read the Wireless Design Online article at tinyurl.com/highly-efficient-radio. (Southgate, Wireless Design)

**

TECHNOLOGY CHANGING: SPACE WEATHER TO INTRODUCE TWO NEW PRODUCTS

This note from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Tentatively on December 11th the Space Weather Prediction Center will introduce two new forecast products titled the 3-Day Forecast and the Forecast Discussion. These new products will be available twice a day at 00:30 and 12:30 UTC to provide space weather information in abbreviated and detailed formats.

Both will use NOAA Space Weather Scale information. Examples of these new products are available at tinyurl.com/caqy4ox and for the concise, 1-page summary and tinyurl.com/bm9flp6 for the in-depth space weather analysis. These two products will supplement the existing product suite and no current forecasts will be discontinued. (OPDX, W8KVK)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: DARPA RECRUITING AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS FOR SPACE JUNK SURVEILLANCE

The U.S. military is launching a far-out neighborhood watch. But instead of warding off burglars, it's recruiting amateur astronomers to assist in tracking orbital debris and there-by help in avoiding possible satellite collisions in Earth orbit.

The sky-monitoring project, called SpaceView, is a Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency or DARPA program that enrolls the talents of amateur astronomers to help protect American space assets from orbital trash. These dangerous objects include spent rocket stages, defunct satellites and fragments from other spacecraft that are the result of erosion, explosion and collision. DARPA says that a collision between one of these small pieces of debris and a satellite could release more than 20,000 times the energy of a head-on automobile collision at 65 miles an hour.

The concept of the SpaceView program is to provide more diverse data to the Space Surveillance Network. This is a U.S. Air Force program charged with cataloguing and observing space junk and debris to identify potential near-term collisions. NASA estimates more than 500,000 pieces of hazardous space debris orbit the Earth, threatening satellites that among other things support peacekeeping and combat missions.

For more information on DARPA's SpaceView project take your web browser to www.spaceviewnetwork.com. (Space.com)

**

ON THE AIR: SPECIAL EVENT STATION GB0IDD TO CELEBRATE UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The United Kingdom's Wakefield District Radio Society will be operating the special event station GB0IDD over the weekend of December 1st to the 3rd. This in celebration of the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

This United Nations sponsored Day of Action takes place each year. Its overall aim is to raise awareness and understanding of disability issues and to promote the independence, inclusion and choice of disabled people and their rights, abilities and well-being worldwide.

This year's theme is Removing Barriers to Create an Inclusive and Accessible Society for All. Operation will be mainly on 20 through 10 meters and you should confirm this contact electronically via e-QSL only.

By the way: Some 30 percent of the Wakefield District Radio Society members are disabled in some way, (GB0IDD)

**

ON THE AIR: 5G12ITD CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL TOLERANCE DAY

And special events station 5G12ITD is on the air Morocco in celebration International Tolerance Day. The United Nations sponsors International

Day for Tolerance annually observed to educate people about the need for tolerance in society and to help them understand the negative effects of intolerance. 5G12ITD will be active all bands and all modes through December 16th. QSL via RW6HS. (Southgate)

**

DX

In DX, word that Members of the F6KOP team expected to be active from Ugands as 5X8C between February 6th to the 18th, 2013, from a location some 20 Km from Entebbe airport. They have announced they will comply to the last IARU bandplan on 40 meters for the region with the frequencies of the PSK and RTTY moved to 7040 and 7042 kHz. For more details see www.5x2013.com

H44RK has announced that he will be active from Samoa for a while in early December. More details will be forthcoming shortly.

DL5RMH will be active from Guatemala until middle of January signing stroke TG9 stroke KF5LSG though he is hoping to obtain the call TG9IDX. If you make contact, please QSL via his home callsign.

VK6DXI will be active stroke FK from New Caledonia until mid December. He has been heard early on Sunday mornings on 28.485 MHz around 07:20 UTC. QSL only via his home callsign.

LA9JKA continues to be operational as JX9JKA from Jan Mayen Island and will be there until approximately April 11th, 2013. He operates SSB and the digital modes on 160 through 4 meters including 60 and 6 meters. QSL direct only to his home callsign as listed in QRZ.com.

Lastly, special event station 8J6HAM will be operational from the Island of Kyushu Japan, between December 10th and March 3rd. Activity is in celebration of the 12th West Japan Ham Fair with operations on all bands and using many modes. QSL via the JARL Bureau.

**

NEWSLINE FOLLOW-UP: L.A. AIRPORT'S TRAVELERS INFORMATION STATION IS HISTORY

And finally this week, thanks to the efforts of a sharp-eyed CGC Communicator reader, we now know why the 530 kHz Travelers Information Station at Los Angeles International Airport reported on last week is silent. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak tells us who found out and why its goods and bad news for broadcast band DX'ers:

--

According to the CGC Communicator, it was a reader identified as Mark Nodine who provided the answer to the question of why the station went dark. According to Nodine, who holds the call KJ6MS says Los Angeles World Airports canceled their recently renewed license for WNHV296

effective October 1, 2012.

Los Angeles World Airports is the City of Los Angeles department that owns and operates three airports. These are Los Angeles International, Ontario International and Van Nuys. The latter of the three being mainly used for private and corporate aviation.

The CGC Communicator goes on to give some interesting technical date about the now defunct Los Angeles International Airport Travelers Information Station. For instance, the station consisted of two separate transmitters. A 10 watt unit was used to provide service to street traffic in a tunnel under the runways while a 100 watt transmitter broadcast to the general public. An FCC waiver was necessary in order to run 100 watts with the above-ground transmitter. That power level was granted back in 2004 after being deemed necessary to communicate with the general public in case of a terrorist attack.

The bottom line: As we said in our last report, the disappearance of this Travelers Information Service station does open up that frequency in the Southwest United States for DX'ing a 50 Kilowatt religious station in Turks and Caicos islands that operates on the same frequency. But it also means another low power AM broadcast band station that was a challenge for DXing listeners has gone away.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, scanning the medium waves from the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

As an aside, the Los Angeles World Airports still holds but is not using the license for station WQEA967 on 770 kHz. It is supposed to be a 10 watt station at Southern California's Ontario International Airport. (CGC Communicator)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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276. FCC Daily Digest 11/23/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-23 16:38:01 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524955-2012.11.23-10.59.43--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 345
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 224 November 2
3, 2012

[...]

Released: 11/21/2012. AUCTION OF FM BROADCAST CONSTRUCTION PERMITS RESCH
EDULED FOR APRIL 23, 2013; NOTICE AND FILING REQUIREMENTS, MINIMUM OPENING
BIDS, UPFRONT PAYMENTS, AND OTHER PROCEDURES FOR AUCTION 94. (DA No. 12-18
65). (Dkt No 12-239). WTB MB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attac
hmatch/DA-12-1865A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1865A2.xls
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1865A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1865A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1865A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1865A2.txt

[...]

277. RX tubes 40 meter

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-24 18:01:52 UTC
From: lucianopep <lucistel@libero.it>
Message-ID: <2b485f61-0779-426f-9cc7-afc724503954@googlegroups.com>
Source record: 346

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puItCEB0Eq8

hello! like my rx tubes for 7 mhz? :-)

278. 20th Anniversary of rec.radio.info

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-25 04:02:36 UTC
From: rec-radio-info-request@panix.com
Message-ID: <k8quh3iep1@reader1.panix.com>
Source record: 347
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

In <20121123100003.15F2C33C23@panix2.panix.com> William M. Pasternak
<newsline@ix.netcom.com> writes:

>Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1841 - November 23 2012

>Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1841 with a release date of
>November 23, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

[...]

>**

>HAM HAPPENINGS: HAPPY 20th BIRTHDAY TO REC.RADIO.INFO

>A very happy birthday to the popular Usenet newsgroup rec.radio.info
>which is about to turn 20. This with the first articles having
>appeared back in January of 1993.

>Usenet is an electronic discussion and bulletin system that predates
>much of the Internet. It later began using the Internet to carry its
>discussion categories, known as newsgroups. Amateur radio was one of
>the very first topics to have these newsgroups.

>The rec.radio.info newsgroup carries a wide range of bulletins,
>announcements, and other informational articles about all kinds of
>radio. These include amateur, shortwave, and domestic broadcasting all
>of which are submitted by its readers and selected by its moderation
>team. Articles from rec.radio.info suitable for amateur radio
>transmission are also relayed to the amateur packet radio bulletin
>board service network.

>The rec.radio.info newsgroup can be accessed using a newsreader and
>subscription to a News Service Provider. A web-based interface to
>Usenet newsgroups, including rec.radio.info, is available from Google
>Groups at groups.google.com. (K3FU, K9YA)

>**

[...]

Thank you Bill. Thanks also to the K9YA Telegraph
(http://www.k9ya.org/k9ya_telegraph1.htm) for running a long-form
article on rec.radio.info in their December 2012 issue. Thanks to our
newsgroup creator, Mark Salyzyn (AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS), our two other past
moderators (David Dodell, K7DSD, and Brian Short, K7ON), as well as all
of our article contributors and readers over the past two decades.
Here's hoping for at least another successful 20 years!

--
The rec.radio.info Moderation Team
rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

279. Need antenna feed advice Yaesu FT-1000

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-25 17:21:27 UTC
From: Tom Horne <hornetd@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <a4547049-afd1-4e93-8178-bed742aaef2d@s14g2000vba.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 348

Thanks to the generosity of a fellow radio club member I now have the use of a Yaesu FT-1000 (no Suffix). Since it has a built in antenna tuner, that I'm hoping to use, I need to ask what the best way is to couple the window line that feeds my folded dipole antenna into a short; say twenty feet; coaxial feeder from the radio. I used an Icom AH4 antenna coupler with my FT-857D on this antenna with very good results. I would guess that I need a balun but which type is a mystery to me.

So is a balun a good solution to this challenge or should I resort to the two pieces of coax in parallel that I have read of elsewhere? When you use the two parallel coax leads do you ground and/or bond the two shields at the transceiver end? Further since the FT-1000 does not have obvious balanced feed line terminals would I connect a balanced feed line to the ground terminal and the the center pin of the SO239 connector by using say a banana plug.

Since I really am asking questions I hope there is already a consensus answer as I would not be able to sort out the various sides of any debate. Thank you in advance to all who choose to tackle this question.

Tom Horne W3TDH

280. Re: Need antenna feed advice Yaesu FT-1000

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-25 23:47:58 UTC
From: Howard Lester <howardxtlester@verizon.net>
Message-ID: <k8uan7$8q7$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 349

"Tom Horne" wrote

> Thanks to the generosity of a fellow radio club member I now have the
> use of a Yaesu FT-1000 (no Suffix). Since it has a built in antenna
> tuner, that I'm hoping to use, I need to ask what the best way is to
> couple the window line that feeds my folded dipole antenna into a
> short; say twenty feet; coaxial feeder from the radio. I used an Icom
> AH4 antenna coupler with my FT-857D on this antenna with very good
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>
> So is a balun a good solution to this challenge or should I resort to
> the two pieces of coax in parallel that I have read of elsewhere?
> When you use the two parallel coax leads do you ground and/or bond the
> two shields at the transceiver end? Further since the FT-1000 does
> not have obvious balanced feed line terminals would I connect a
> balanced feed line to the ground terminal and the the center pin of
> the SO239 connector by using say a banana plug.

Tom, I looked up the AH-4. It appears it is to be used only with a random-length single wire antenna. You cannot feed a ladderline transmission line to it. So as you already may know, that's out. And you cannot connect the referenced two pieces of coax directly to the FT-1000. What you must do is use a transmatch (erroneously called an "antenna tuner") such as any of the various MFJ "tuners," or those from Palstar, etc., between your ladderline and your FT-1000. The transmatch you use must accommodate a balanced line. It can have coax inputs, too, but it must have balanced line terminals as an available option. The ladderline is fed through your wall (more on that later) to the transmatch; a length of coax connects the transmatch to the FT-1000. I run 100 watts and use RG-8X from my transmatch to my FT-950.

The other way is to use a balun outside your shack. (I think DX Engineering sells some of these. You would normally find a 4:1 balun, in a weatherproof container, for this purpose.) The ladderline connects to the balun, and from the balun you run a SHORT LENGTH of RG-8 type coax (any RG-8 size coax will do -- but definitely not anything smaller) through the wall to your transmatch. The swr's can be very high on various bands at the balun, so you have to use one rated for many thousands of volts to be sure it can handle the heat. And because the swr's can be high, you want the coax lead through the wall to be as short as possible -- maybe five feet or less, or try to keep it under ten to reduce losses as much as possible. By the way, I tried this method 20 years ago using a Radio Works 4 KV "current" balun to work with my then MFJ-948 transmatch. Running just 100 watts, that balun heated up so badly that it was destroyed. So I do not recommend this method.

In any case, you *have* to use a transmatch because your FT-1000 tuner can handle swr's of only up to 3:1, and, unless you're really lucky, your transmission line is going to present swr's far higher than that. Thus the need for the transmatch.

If you want to run the ladderline through the wall, the way I did mine was to cut a 3" diameter hole in the side of my house, through the vinyl siding and all that, and insert a 3" PVC tube. I made holes in 3" PVC end caps to tightly accommodate two lengths of RG-8/U coax of *identical* length (five feet each, in my case). Outside the house, the ladderline is soldered to the center conductors of the two lengths of coax. Inside the house, the center conductors of the other ends of the coax connect to the balanced line terminals of the transmatch. For good measure, I inserted fiberglass insulation into the PVC tube. On each end of the PVC, the end caps are secured, and bugs can't get through. (Also note I attached a 45 degree PVC elbow to the tube on the outside of the house, pointing it down. That way, any water that gets on the coax will drip DOWN away from the 3" tube itself.) OK, what to do with the coax shields? Solder them together at both ends. Now you have "ladderline" running through the wall, but shielded from any electrical influences that might be inside the wall. Finally, attach a length of coax from the transmatch to the FT-1000, and you're all set.

For lightning "protection" I installed, within the ladderline outside, male and female pairs of banana connectors. One housing contains two plugs, the other housing contains two jacks. That makes for a nice and quick connect and disconnect. I think I got them from Mouser Electronics. The width is just right for 450 ohm line. This makes it easy to disconnect the ladderline outside the house when I know a storm is approaching, or for times I go away overnight.

Howard N7SO

281. Re: Need antenna feed advice Yaesu FT-1000

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-26 02:16:33 UTC
From: Fred McKenzie <fmmck@aol.com>
Message-ID: <fmmck-1BA8B3.13444625112012@5ad64b5e.bb.sky.com>
Source record: 350

In article
<a4547049-afd1-4e93-8178-bed742aaef2d@s14g2000vba.googlegroups.com>,
Tom Horne <hornetd@gmail.com> wrote:

> Thanks to the generosity of a fellow radio club member I now have the
> use of a Yaesu FT-1000 (no Suffix). Since it has a built in antenna
> tuner, that I'm hoping to use, I need to ask what the best way is to
> couple the window line that feeds my folded dipole antenna into a
> short; say twenty feet; coaxial feeder from the radio. I used an Icom
> AH4 antenna coupler with my FT-857D on this antenna with very good
> results. I would guess that I need a balun but which type is a
> mystery to me.
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> So is a balun a good solution to this challenge or should I resort to
> the two pieces of coax in parallel that I have read of elsewhere?
> When you use the two parallel coax leads do you ground and/or bond the
> two shields at the transceiver end? Further since the FT-1000 does
> not have obvious balanced feed line terminals would I connect a
> balanced feed line to the ground terminal and the the center pin of
> the SO239 connector by using say a banana plug.
>
> Since I really am asking questions I hope there is already a consensus
> answer as I would not be able to sort out the various sides of any
> debate. Thank you in advance to all who choose to tackle this
> question.

Tom-

My first choice would be to adapt the AH4 to the FT-1000. If that was
not practical, I'd go for a 4 to 1 BALUN to start.

My choice of 4 to 1 is based on an assumption that the antenna/feedline
will look like a balanced impedance around 200 Ohms. On some bands that
may not be the case, and your built-in tuner may not have the range to
tune it. If that happens, you may be able to use a 1 to 1 BALUN. If
you wind your own, you can rewire it as needed.

Fred
K4DII

282. FCC Daily Digest 11/28/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-28 17:51:36 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-524998-2012.11.28-12.13.45--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 51
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 227 November 2
8, 2012

[...]

APPLICATIONS OF COMM SYSTEMS, LLC, ET AL. Denied 800 MHz Applications. A
ction by: Assistant Chief, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications
Bureau. Adopted: 11/28/2012 by ORDER. (DA No. 12-1904). WTB http://hraun
foss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1904A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1904A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1904A1.txt

[...]

283. Re: Need antenna feed advice Yaesu FT-1000

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-29 04:08:30 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <k96n3m$bc9$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 52

On 11/25/2012 12:21 PM, Tom Horne wrote:
> Thanks to the generosity of a fellow radio club member I now have the
> use of a Yaesu FT-1000 (no Suffix). Since it has a built in antenna
> tuner, that I'm hoping to use, I need to ask what the best way is to
> couple the window line that feeds my folded dipole antenna into a
> short; say twenty feet; coaxial feeder from the radio. ...
>
> So is a balun a good solution to this challenge or should I resort to
> the two pieces of coax in parallel that I have read of elsewhere?

IIRC, your antenna is about 90 feet long: that makes it a "natural" for the 60 meter band, so I suggest you try using a 6:1 or a 4:1 balun, and see if the built-in tuner will work with it. If 60 meters is OK, try it on 20 and 10 meters, but 15, 40, and 80 are going to be iffy.

I don't like the "choke" baluns that use toroid cores over the coax, since I've had problems with them overheating, but you can make a balun with a short length of PVC pipe: just wind one layer on the pipe, cover it with some Mylar, and wind the other side over that. The ARRL handbook has the formulas, which I can't recall offhand, since they are buried back in the mists of time and/or my misspent youth. ;-)

When your balun is tested, and the turns ratio adjusted as needed, you can cover it in plastic to keep moisture out, and leave it outside so that you can keep using Coax for your feedline.

HTH.

Bill

--
Bill, W1AC

284. The ARRL Letter for November 29, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-29 22:10:21 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121129192616.C84E92697F@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 53
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

November 29, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

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December 1
- + Amateur Radio in Space: Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF, and Scott Kelly
to Spend One Year on International Space Station
- + ARRL's Logbook of The World: Bug Fix Is in Place
- + Ham Radio in Hollywood: Morse Code Plays Role in New Spielberg
Movie
- + On the Air: The ARRL 10 Meter Contest: The Band Is Hot!
- + On the Air: ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee Seeks Input 6
and 3 Centimeter Bands
- Solar Update
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>
<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

==> + PUBLIC SERVICE: THE 14TH ANNUAL SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY SET FOR
DECEMBER 1

The 14th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) Special Event will
take place Saturday, December 1, 2012. SRD is co-sponsored by the ARRL
and the National Weather Service (NWS) as a way to recognize the
commitment made by Amateur Radio operators in helping to keep their
communities safe. According to SRD Coordinator David Floyd, N5DBZ,
Amateur Radio operators can visit their local participating NWS office,
working as a team to contact other hams across the world throughout the
24-hour event on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 meters, as well as 70
centimeters. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/the-14th-annual-skywarn-recognition-day-set-for-dec
ember-1>.
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==> + AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: MIKHAIL KORNIENKO, RN3BF, AND SCOTT KELLY TO SPEND ONE YEAR ON INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Russian Cosmonaut Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF, of the Russian Federal Space Agency and NASA Astronaut Scott Kelly have been selected for a one-year mission aboard the International Space Station in 2015. According to NASA, the mission will include collecting scientific data important to future human exploration of our solar system and to understand better how the human body reacts and adapts to the harsh environment of space as NASA plans for missions around the Moon, an asteroid and ultimately Mars. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/mikhail-kornienko-rn3bf-and-scott-kelly-to-spend-one-year-on-international-space-station>.

==> + ARRL'S LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD: BUG FIX IS IN PLACE

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, reports on a bug fix for Logbook of The World.

The fix for the Logbook of The World (LoTW <https://p1k.arrl.org/lotwuser/default>) bug was implemented at 2103 UTC on November 28. Full credit goes to ARRL Information Technology Manager Michael Keane, K1MK, for figuring out what was happening and how to correct it.

There are two ways of uploading logs: via the LoTW website and by e-mail. LoTW users should note that e-mailed logs were not affected by the bug, so no e-mailed logs will need to be resubmitted.

At the time the fix was implemented, LoTW processing was running almost exactly three days behind. If a user's most recent upload was made before 2100 UTC on November 25 and it has not yet been processed the file should be resubmitted. There should be no need to resubmit logs uploaded since 2100 UTC on November 25, which would include all CQWW CW DX Contest logs submitted after the end of the contest.

There is, however, a very slight chance that logs uploaded after this date might have been overwritten. If you find that your logs that were uploaded after November 25 are not appearing in your LoTW account, please wait until after December 3 to upload them again.

Thanks to everyone who has been patient while we grappled with this bug. The issue of slow processing speed is also being addressed, but it requires a hardware upgrade that will take several weeks to implement. Your continued patience and understanding will be appreciated.

==> + HAM RADIO IN HOLLYWOOD: MORSE CODE PLAYS ROLE IN NEW SPIELBERG MOVIE

Producer Steven Spielberg has used Amateur Radio or Morse code in three of his last four movies: Super 8 (2011), The Adventures of Tin Tin (2011) and Lincoln (2012). Members of the Morse Telegraph Club -- an association of retired railroad and commercial telegraphers, historians, radio amateurs and others with an interest in the history

and traditions of telegraphy and the telegraph industry -- played an integral part in the production of Lincoln.

"Nine of the 16 telegraph stations depicted in the War Department were fully operational," explained Morse Telegraph Club International President James Wade, WB8SIW. "These instruments could be operated in any combination through the use of a specialized computer program and custom-built terminal units for the process. When necessary, a hand key could be inserted in the individual telegraph loops so messages could be improvised." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/morse-code-plays-role-in-new-spielberg-movie>.

==> + ON THE AIR: THE ARRL 10 METER CONTEST: THE BAND IS HOT!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5xJjThOlic> Will it be possible to beat the 2011 running of the ARRL 10 Meter Contest? With more than 5300 logs received and worldwide openings last year, that may be a tall order. This past weekend during the CQ WW CW Contest, 10 meters was in great shape, despite a coronal mass ejection that hit on Friday evening. But according to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, one thing's for certain: There's going to be a ton of activity, as hams from all around the world look to work some DX on the band! Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-arrl-10-meter-contest-the-band-is-hot>.

==> + ON THE AIR: ARRL UHF/MICROWAVE BAND PLAN COMMITTEE SEEKS INPUT 6 AND 3 CENTIMETER BANDS

Last year, in recognition of the need to update the published band plans for our UHF and microwave bands, the ARRL Board of Directors formed the UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee to develop revised national plans for the amateur bands between 902 MHz and 3.5 GHz. After receiving extensive user input, the committee completed its task and the resulting band plans were approved by the Board in July 2012. The committee has now received an additional assignment to conduct a similar update to the 6 and 3 centimeter bands. In order to do this effectively, the committee needs to know how various segments of these bands are now being utilized around the country. You can help them by sharing what you know about local usage in your area and by asking other users -- both individuals and groups -- to do the same. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-uhf-microwave-band-plan-committee-seeks-input-on-6-and-3-centimeter-bands>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot number for the week was down nearly 38 percent to 78.9, compared to last week's average. The average daily solar flux dropped nearly 13 percent, to 121. The seven-day reporting period for these data ran from November 22-28. The predicted solar flux for the near term is 110 on November 29, 105 on November 30-December 1, 100 on December 2-4, 105 and 115 on

December 5-6, 130 on December 7-11, 135 on December 12-15, 140 on December 16-17, 135 on December 18-19, 130 on December 20-22, 120 on December 23-24, 115 on December 25, 110 on December 26-28, and rising again to 115 on December 29-30. The predicted planetary A index is 11, 15 and 8 on November 29-December 1, 5 on December 2-5, 10 on December 6-8, then 5 and 8 on December 9-10, 5 on December 11-15, 8 on December 16, and back down to 5 on December 17-31. The new year is expected to begin with slightly unsettled conditions, with a predicted planetary A index at 10 on January 1-4. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, November 30. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- November 30 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 30-December 2 -- ARRL 160 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/160-meter>
- December 1 -- TARA RTTY Melee; Wake-Up! QRP Sprint; TOPS Activity Contest
- December 1-2 -- ARRL EME Contest <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>
- December 2 -- 10 Meter RTTY Contest; SARL Digital Contest
- December 4 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

Next week:

- December 7 -- NCCC Sprint
- December 8-9 -- ARRL 10 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>; International Naval Contest
- December 9 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run
- December 12 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint; NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- December 12-13 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- December 1-2 -- ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-central-florida-section-convention-tampa-bay-hamfest-2>,
Palmetto, Florida
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-1>,

Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

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285. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1842 - November 30 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-30 10:00:14 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121130100003.E254A33C8C@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 54
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1842 - November 30 2012

Attention bulletin stations. Please note that this is an extended Amateur Radio Newsline report and contains three breaks. Thank you.

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1842 with a release date of November 30, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. The FCC issues a rule making proposal aimed at implementing the 2007 World Radiocommunications Accords; the NTSB says it wants to end all kinds of distracted driving; South Africa's ham radio community is told it will have to re-apply for their licenses and the 8th Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference is called a major success. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1842 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: FCC PROPOSES IMPLEMENTING 2007 WRC ACCORDS

The FCC has issued ET Docket 12-338 that if passed as written is pretty good news for ham radio. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in the newsroom with the details:

--

ET Docket 12-338 released on Tuesday, November 20th proposes modify the rules governing a number of communications services for amateur radio which falls under Part 97 of its rules, the proposed changes are quite positive.

Starting at the low end of the electromagnetic spectrum and working our way up, Docket 12-338 proposes the creation of a permanent albeit shared allocation from 135.7-137.8 kHz with a power output of 1 watt effective radiated power to an isotropic radiator. To those who have never heard the term isotropic radiator, this is a theoretical point source of electromagnetic waves that emits the same intensity of radiation in all directions. Translated into everyday language it really means hams will only be able to transmit a few hundred milliwatts of power if that.

Now going up a few hundred kilohertz to the 160 mter band. That where Docket 12-338 proposes to change the Amateur Radio Service allocation to make 1800 through 2000 kHz a primary amateur service allocation.

By way of background, historically, the 1715 to 2000 kHz band was allocated exclusively to the Amateur Service. In 1953, the FCC removed the 1715 to 1800 kHz segment from the Amateur Radio Service and allocated the 1800 to 2000 kHz band to the Amateur Service on a shared basis with the Radionavigation Service. Then in 1983, the FCC allocated the 1800 to 1900 kHz band to the Amateur Service on an exclusive basis and the 1900 to 2000 kHz band to the Radiolocation Service on a primary basis and to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis.

Lastly, in the WRC-07 Table Clean-Up Order, the FCC combined the 10 to 10.45 GHz and 10.45 to 10.5 GHz bands in the Federal Table of Allocations. In doing so, the frequency band was inadvertently not changed to 10 to 10.5 GHz. To fix this the FCC will revise the text of three footnotes that pertain to this spectrum by adding the existing Amateur-Satellite Service allocation to the list of permitted non-federal services. It will also order that non-federal stations in the Radiolocation Service not cause harmful interference to the Amateur Service in the 10 to 10.5 GHz band.

As we said, its pretty good news for ham radio here in the USA.

>From the studio in Los Angeles, Im Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF.

--

If approved as written, these changes will implement allocation decisions from the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference that concern those portions of the radio frequency spectrum between 108 MHz and 20.2 GHz by making specific updates to the rules in this frequency range. You can download the full text of ET Docket 12-338 at as a Word document at tinyurl.com/proposed-wrc-changes (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: NTSB VS CEA ON DISTRACTED DRIVING AND DISTRACTED TRANSIT

The National Transportation Safety Board wants to eliminate all driver distraction and is broadening its focus on the use of portable electronic devices in all types of vehicles. The issue is part of the NTSB's recently released "2013 Most Wanted List." Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, is here with the details:

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While acknowledging that distracted driving didn't begin when people began making calls or texting in the car, the National Transportation Safety Board still says that portable electronic devices that do not directly support the task at hand have no place in any vehicles. This includes automobiles planes, trains, and just about any other vessel you might be able to think of. As such it argues that states and regulators can set the proper tone by banning the nonessential use of such devices in all areas of transportation.

The NTSB says that young drivers are more likely to use portable electronic devices while behind the wheel and therefore are especially at risk. It urges that laws, education, and enforcement efforts should place special emphasis on curbing the use of portable electronic devices by these younger drivers.

The NTSB goes on to say that companies should develop and vigorously enforce policies to eliminate distractions. It also says that manufacturers can assist by developing technology that disables these devices when in reach of operators.

But the NTSB has some strong opposition from the Consumer Electronics Association or CEA. That organization says that while it applauds the effort, it also notes that the NTSB misses the mark on the use of portable electronics in vehicles. It says that calling for an abstinence only approach, the NTSB ignores established realities of human behavior. It also claims that in-vehicle technology when used correctly can make for vastly safer roadways.

The CEA says that rather than calling for broad regulations or outright bans, policymakers should encourage the use of the many innovative driver safety technologies coming on to the marketplace. The CEA notes that it has already forwarded the NTSB a list of third-party applications that promote safe use of portable technologies in the automobile.

How any of this might affect mobile or even hand held pedestrian portable operations in the future by ham radio operators and other users of two-way radio is at this time unknown. But the NTSB stand seems to be that any and all forms of distraction must be removed from the public's hands while in transit. And that's not likely to sit well with the public at large.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP. In Scottsdale, Arizona.

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It should be noted that the National Transportation Safety Board is an independent body that has no authority to enact transportation policy, nor to force the federal government to make transportation policy changes. However it makes recommendations to governments, industry and the public and uses its "Most Wanted" list as a way to highlight changes that it is advocating. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: ALL RADIO SOUTH AFRICAN AMATEURS WILL HAVE TO REAPPLY FOR THEIR LICENSES

All South African radio amateurs are going to have to reapply for their licenses. This is according to the South African Radio League which says its liaison committee met with that nation's telecommunications regulatory body Independent Communications Authority of South Africa.

At that meeting the national society learned that following an audit by the Auditor General, that the communications regulator has been instructed to implement regulation 15 of the nations Radio Frequency Spectrum Regulations. This is a law that stipulates that an amateur radio license can only be renewed for up to five years after which a new application has to be submitted. Because of this, all South Africa licensed radio amateurs will be required to re-apply for a license for the period of April 1st 2013 through March 31st 2018.

The South Africa Radio League says that the details as to how this will be accomplished are expected to be made public in the next few weeks. Until that time, South African hams should do nothing. As soon as information is made available the South Africa Radio League announce it via its news bulletin service system and make forms available on its website at www.sarl.org.za. (SARL, ICASA)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including WMRP FM on 104.7 MHz serving Flint Michigan.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: GAREC 2012 DEEMED A MAJOR SUCCESS

The 8th Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference also known as GAREC 2012 was held recently in Port Dickson, Malaysia. We have an updated report on what transpired at that gathering from WIA Newsman Graham Kemp, VK4BB:

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Attending the conference on November 12 to 14 were delegates from nine countries under this year's theme of 'One world, One commitment'.

Among the presentations was one on the Mobile Emergency Weather System which assists authorities using simple equipment and training.

There were status reports from various countries and these highlighted the differences and similarities in approach to emergency planning. While solutions may not be easy to find, sharing the problems and allowing individual countries to recognize that they were not alone, provides valuable support to the Global community.

GAREC-2012 included two practical activities. These enhanced inter-personal relationships enabling delegates to work together more efficiently in future.

Future conferences may seek to involve partners in emergency response, such as the International Federation of the Red Cross and the ITU, in accord with the existing Memoranda of Understanding.

The delegates thanked the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitters Society in hosting this successful conference.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline. I'm Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News in Australia.

--

The next GAREC is in Zurich, Switzerland on June 25 to 27, 2013. All groups and organizations involved in Amateur Radio Emergency Communications are invited to attend to share their knowledge and learn from others. (WIA News)

**

RESCUE RADIO: DISASTER READINESS FAIR IN CALIFORNIA HIGHLIGHTS CERT AND HAM RADIO

In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, a disaster-readiness fair that highlighted solar oven cooking, water storage, 72-hour emergency kits and amateur radio communication demonstrations has been held in Temecula, California. The event, hosted by the Temecula Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, took place on Saturday, November 10th.

At the event dozens of tables with information and demonstrations on topics pertinent to emergency preparedness were set up in and around the church facility. There were also two presentations on food storage and earthquake preparedness was given by specialists in those areas.

Gordon Neuls, N6ELS, manned a booth promoting amateur radio certification. Members of the Temecula Citizen Corps were on hand to raise awareness of the need to be ready for natural disasters and to promote the Community Emergency Response Team operations. It was noted that in the case of a disaster where normal lines of communication are interrupted, amateur radio can be used to relay information, as well as to send for help and other assistance.

According to the Temecula Press Enterprise, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has long been an advocate of emergency preparedness. It noted that the church leadership encourages each of its members to have a year's supply of food and emergency items, be self-reliant and free of debt. (Temecula Press Enterprise)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAM RADIO RESPONDERS THANKED FOR THEIR HELP IN GUATEMALA QUAKE

Amateur radio operators who were among the first responders following an Earthquake that hit Guatemala have been thanked for their efforts. WIA Newsman Robert Broomhead, VK3DN has the details:

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The rescue and relief work in San Marcos, Guatemala, a mountainous region bordering Mexico that was hit by a 7.4 scale earthquake claiming the lives of at least 52 people earlier this month, was aided by emergency communications provided by radio amateurs.

International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 Emergency Communication Coordinator, Cesar Pio Santos HR2P said he was very proud of the work done during and after the earthquake on November 8, despite the difficult times.

Cesar HR2P thanked the members of the Club de Radioficionados de Guatemala for their outstanding efforts. He was responding to a report from Marco Aurelio TG 8 AMP, who was in charge of the emergency network. About 10,000 houses have been affected by the earthquake with authorities setting up 11 rescue centers for the homeless.

This has been VK3DN, reporting from Melborne.

--

According to news reports, this was the worst quake to hit Guatemala since 1976. Thats when a 7.5 magnitude temblor caused the deaths of about 23,000 people in one of the worst natural disasters of the time. (VK3PC, HR2P, WIA News)

**

RADIO LAW: HAM RADIO TOWER AMENDMENT TO ZONING IN RIDGECREST CA

The Planning Commission in Ridgecrest California was to hold a public hearing November 27th to recommend the City Council amend a city zoning ordinance that would help hams in that city erect antennas. The amendment request, should it be approved by the city council at a later date, could permit amateur ham radio antennas in excess of 35 feet to be erected subject to a ham obtaining a Conditional Use permit.

The agenda relates directly to a previous request by Ridgecrest resident Steven Rainey, N6MVX, to put up a 55-foot tower on his property back in September. Rainey could not receive a conditional use permit for the proposed tower following a public hearing. This is because the Planning Commission does not have the authority to grant such permits under the current municipal code.

According to a city staff report, the amendment request, should it be approved by the city council at a later date, could permit amateur radio antennas and windmill towers in excess of 35 feet to be erected subject to a Conditional Use permit. City Planner Matthew Alexander is quoted as saying ham radio operators represented a strong asset to the city in case of emergencies.

More is on-line at tinyurl.com/ridgecrest-antenna. (Ridgecrestca.com)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: COMMEMORATE NOAA - SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY

NOAA - SKYWARN Recognition Day is December 1st from 0000 to 2400 hours UTC and everyone is invited to take part.

NOAA - SKYWARN Recognition Day was developed in 1999 by the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League. Its purpose is to celebrate the contributions that volunteer SKYWARN radio operators make to the National Weather Service

As we go to air some 70 NWS ham radio operations are registered for the 24 hour operating event. These stations are expected to be operational on the High Frequency bands plus 6, 2 and 70 centimeters along with Echolink as well as IRLP.

For more informational please visit the official NOAA -SKYWARN Recognition Day website at tinyurl.com/skywarn-nws- day. (PAPA, NWS)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HANDIHAM 2013 RADIO CAMP ANNOUNCED

The Handihams have make known that their 2013 Radio Camp is tentatively scheduled for the Woodland campus of Camp Courage in late July and early August. The tentative dates are July 28th through August 2nd making travel days for the campout Sunday and Friday. No pricing has been announced. (Handihams)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: COURAGE CENTER CAMPS PARTNER WITH FRIENDSHIP VENTURES

The Handihams have also announced that Courage Center Camps and Friendship Ventures have entered a joint partnership. This to create a new camp organization to serve people with disabilities.

The new organization founded on November 19th will be called Camps of Courage and Friendship. At least that will be its title until a formal name study is completed in 2013.

Campers, volunteers and staff will see traditional programs continue in 2013. However, behind the scenes, new methods and approaches will be developed to incorporate the strengths of both organizations. More about this new joint venture is on-line at www.campscouragefriendship.org. (Handihams)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: TOWER WORK WEBINAR DECEMBER 12

The World Wide Radio Operators Foundation will be presenting a webinar on towers and how to work safely on and around one on.

Titled "Tower Work --Tips, Techniques, and Tools," this presentation taught by John Crovelli, W2GD, and Don Daso, K4ZA. During the session the two will outline things that they have learned from almost 100 years of combined experience, focusing on safety, cost savings, and of coarse problem solving.

The hour long webinar will begin at 9 PM Eastern Standard Time on Wednesday, December 12th which equates to Thursday, December 13th at 02:00 UTC. Registration is free to hams world-wide at tinyurl.com/tower-webinar-registration. (K4ZW, QRZ.com)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: ELLEN OCHOA, KB5TZZ, NAMED DIRECTOR OF JSC

Some names in the news. A ham radio operator will soon be heading up the Lyndon B. Johnson Spaceflight Center in Houston, Texas. This as NASA Administrator Charles Bolden announces that Astronaut Ellen Ochoa, KB5TZZ, as the next Director of the historic space development facility.

Ochoa was the first Hispanic woman to go into space. Since September 2007 she has served as Johnson Spaceflight Center Deputy Director. Prior to that position she worked as Deputy Director of Flight Crew Operations at JSC and in September of 2006 became Director of Flight Crew Operations.

Ellen Ochowa will be facility's 11th Director. She will also be its first Hispanic, first radio amateur and the second female to serve in that position. KB5TZZ will take over the reins at JSC from Michael Coats when he retires at the end of the year. (NASA, Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: KOLD OWNER TURNS 90

The founder of the world's most remote radio station, Radio KOLD in Antarctica has turned 90. Steve Grimsley, VK2ZP, set up Radio KOLD at Wilkes Base in 1961, and the station is still broadcasting. Family, friends and former colleagues gathered in the Australian town of Binalong to celebrate VK2ZP's birthday. (WIA News)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE3XT ELECTED ONTARIO NORTH/EAST RAC DIRECTOR

Congratulations are extended to Bill Unger, VE3XT who was recently selected as the Radio Amateurs of Canada Director for Ontario North East. Unger ran unopposed, eliminating the need for a balloted election. VE3XT has been an amateur operator since 1970 and has been involved in many aspects of the hobby. His term as Director will be for two years starting January 1, 2013 and ending on December 31, 2014. (RAC)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: MEXICO ZETA DRUG GANG BLAMED FOR KIDNAPPING ENGINEERS

If you are an Information Technology or two-way radio technician and planning a trip to Mexico, you might not carry an H-T on a belt clip where it can be seen. This is because at least one drug gang seems to be kidnapping and enslaving those who know two-way radio to build and keep their private system going. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, takes a look at the situation south of the border:

--

According to a report from Mexican news site Animal Politico, at least three dozen engineers and technicians have been kidnapped in the past four years. And Felipe Gonzalez who is the head of Mexico's Senate Security Committee told Animal Politico that none of the engineers who disappeared have ever been found.

Mexican authorities blame the notorious drug running gang the Zeta's for the kidnappings. The Mexican military is trying to dismantle an extensive radio network built and operated by the drug cartel but to date authorities have not had much luck shutting it down. Not only is much of the equipment super-easy to replace, but the drug runners have apparently found some unwilling assistance by kidnapping and enslaving technicians to help build it. Among them is at least one IBM employee and several communications technicians from a firm owned by Mexico's largest construction company.

Last year the Mexican military found and dismantled one such drug runners radio network spread across northeastern Mexico that included 167 radio antennas sites. As recently as this past September, Mexican marines found a 295-foot-high transmission tower in Veracruz State.

The bottom line: It seems the drug gangs have discovered that two-way radio is a tool that they will not be without but the Mexican government is doing all it can to take these clandestine operations off the air.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, near Zion, Illinois.

--

One of the best stories in the English language that explains in depth the safety issue to engineers and technicians in Mexico is on the World Disaster Report website. Its on-line at tinyurl.com/enslaved-technicians. (Animal Politico, Whatspoppin.net, World Disaster Report, other news sources)

**

WORLDBEAT DIGITAL RADIO FAILS IN HONG KONG

As of this past October 10th, Hong Kong's new Digital Broadcasting Corporation is off the air. This after only one month of operation. The stated reason is that they simply have run out of money to continue operations.

According to the South China Morning Post, the station's co-founder Albert Cheng King Hon wanted the government to intervene between the shareholders, but Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development turned down the request for mediation.

Digital Broadcasting Corporation's financial woes have meant that the staff was not paid for the month of October, or offered severance. Nonetheless, at least one talk show host indicated that he would like to continue broadcasting without pay, but some doubted the practicality of this goodwill gesture.

Disagreements over what to do with the company's assets extend to questions over whether or not these should be liquidated to pay employees or allow the board members to buy back shares at a discounted rate. Digital Broadcasting Corporation license required it to formally launch its service by September 21st, 2012, and also to provide seven 24-hour programming channels. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: BCDX NET CELEBRATES ITS 24th ANNIVERSARY

The weekly 40 meter BCDX Net from South India celebrated its 24th anniversary on Sunday, November 25th. This Net began operation on Sunday, November 27, 1988 by a small group of radio amateurs that included 4S7VK, VU2FOT, VU2JOS along with some very interested shortwave listeners.

The BCDX Net is now held on Sunday morning's at 03:00 UTC on 7 dot 085 MHz Lower Sideband for the advantage of those who are keenly interested in Broadcast Band DXing. According to its operators, the unique thing about this net is that is helped hams to become SWL DX'ers and SWL's to get their amateur licenses. The current net control station is VU3SIO and assisted from time to time by VU3BGK and VU2JOS. (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT: MARITIME AMATEUR WEBSITE SERVING HAMS UP NORTH

The Maritime Amateur website was launched back in March 2008 with the purpose of sharing information among radio amateurs in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island of Canada. Now in its fifth year, there has been over 43 thousand hits and has a membership of over 110 ham radio operators.

>From the homepage, there are links to local, national and international news, CANWARN, maritime nets and numerous others sits of interest to hams that spend time on the water or who just want to be of service to their communities. You can check it out at www (dot) maritimeamateur (dot) ca. For more information please contact Jim Langille by e-mail to

ve1jbl@eastlink.ca (VE1JBL)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FOX-1 CUBESAT UPDATED DESIGN PUBLISHED

The design of the Fox-1A has been updated. During the 2012 Symposium AMSAT Vice-President Engineering, Tony Monteiro, AA2TX and the Fox Engineering team presented the latest status on the design, development, and construction of the Fox-1A satellite project. Fox-1A is is a one unit size cubesat which will carry an FM repeater transponder to replace the ageing AO-51. (ANS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: 2012 AMSAT SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE IN THE AMSAT STORE

The Proceedings of the AMSAT-NA 30th Symposium and AMSAT-NA Annual Meeting, held October 26th to the 28th in Orlando, Florida have been put up for sale at the on-line AMSAT Store. The proceedings contain over 30 articles on subjects ranging from current satellite operations to updates on the Fox Project. For information on pricing and shipping or to oplace an order please visit store.amsat.org/catalog on the World Wide Web. (ANS)

**

BREAK 3

The news never stops and neither do we. From the United States of America we are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed to you by the following bulletin station:

(5 sec pause)

**

ON THE AIR: SPECIAL EVENT STATION TM1TARA

On the air, keep an ear open for special event station TM1TARA to be on air between December 8th to the 10th. This to commemorate the scientific voyages of French polar vessel the Tara.

Tara Expeditions has been organizing missions aboard this research schooner for the past 9 years. The goal is to learn more about the impact of climate change on the planets ecosystems. So far Tara has accomplished eight successful expeditions including voyages to Greenland, Antarctica, Patagonia, southern Georgia, and the Arctic. Its latest voyage was described as world-wide known as Tara Oceans.

For this special celebration operations will be conducted by F8DVD and F8IJV from Paris, France during the Tara exhibit. Look for them on 20 through 10 meters on SSB. A special color QSL card will be printed and

will be sent via the Bureau or direct. QSL with a self addressed envelope and 2 IRC's - if you can still get them -- to F8DVD. (Southgate)

**

DX

In DX, CT1FTR is currently on the air from the Sudan as ST2FT. He is active on High Frequency bands using SSB and PSK31. If you make contact QSL via CT2GBU or electronically using eQSL. OH0XX is currently active from Contadora Island in the Archipelago Perlas as HP1XX. Bands and modes are not known but if you work him please QSL via home call.

K4UUK plans to operate from Belize May 4th to the 18th 2013 as V31RD. He will be active on 80 through 6 meters on SSB. QSL via K4UUK.

GM3YTS , GM4FDM , GM0GAV , GM3POI will be active from Tuvalu Island from March 12th to the 23rd 2013 as T2GM. They will be operational on all of the High Frequency bands with an emphasis on contacts with Europe. QSL via GM4FDM

AA4NC will be operational from Montserrat February 12th to the 20th of 2013 as VP2ME. He he also plans to be active in ARRL DX CW Contest. QSL this station electronically using Logbook of the World.

Four British hams plan to be active from Easter Island February 13th to the 21st as XR0YG. They will be operational on High Frequency bands only. An actual guide to their operating hours and QSL routes is expected to be announced shortly.

Lastly, a team of operators from Germany will be on the air from Samoa next April 4th to the 18th as 5W0M. They will be operational using various modes on 80 through 6 meter plus and 2m E-M-E. QSL the main operation to DL4SVA direct, via the bureau or OQRS. For EME QSO's send cards via DL9MS. (Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: HURRICANE SANDY - EVERYTHING OLD WAS NEW AGAIN

And finally this week you might want to say that everything old is new again. This after Professor Darren Hayes of Pace University's Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems reports on the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. According to Professor Hays, it appears that older technology played a vital role to assist the public after this disaster. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW has the details:

--

In an article in the news blog The Hill, Professor Darren Hays notes that the Verizon network suffered widespread outages and with no electricity, telecommunications were problematic. The old corded

telephones were plugged in by those who still had them and there were lines for payphones. For those of you to young to remember these are coin operated telephones that in many places are nothing more than a distant memory.

Professor Hays also had some nice words for the amateur radio community. He says that others resorted to using ham radio to communicate, which was found to be very effective. Hays pointed to ham radio networks like ARES and RACES which are dedicated to communications outages. Hays who holds the call KI6UEI noted that a battery-powered radio was at one point his only connection to the outside world during the storm.

Hays article notes that as the recovery in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy continues, questions are being raised about our nation's preparedness for emergencies. On Friday, November 9th it was reported that two Congressmen, U.S. Representatives Peter King and Steve Israel, were requesting that the military assume control of Long Island Power Authority. This in an effort to restore electricity to more than 150,000 homes and businesses which at that point still without mains power.

Back in 2006 the newspaper Newsday reported that the Long Island Power Authority was warned that its critical infrastructure could not handle a major storm. One of the issues noted was that the utility was utilizing a 25-year old mainframe computer system that could not track power outages or other critical functions like monitoring for rotting utility poles.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

You can read the entire article by Professor Hays on-line at tinyurl.com/old-worked-best (The Hill)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org.

A reminder to those of you who still receive these newscasts over our 661-296-2407 dial in telephone line rater than downloading the MP3 file from our website or from the RSS feed. We are still giving consideration to discontinuing telephone feed service as a cost cutting

measure. But before we do, we want to know how many people are actually using it.

If you are one of those who call in each week on the phone and have not already done so, please send us a note telling us who you are and the reason you are using telephone access rather than simply downloading the newscast from the Internet.

Our address is the Amateur Radio Newsline, 28197 Robin Avenue, Saugus California, 91350. Or, as we said, you can e-mail us at newsline (at) arnewsline (dot) org. We look forward to hearing from you.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, in Southern Mississippi saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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286. HAM RADIO IN HOLLYWOOD

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-30 14:51:14 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <k99f54$1qt$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 55

This is from the ARRL Letter:

> ==> + HAM RADIO IN HOLLYWOOD: MORSE CODE PLAYS ROLE IN NEW SPIELBERG
> MOVIE
>
> ...
> "Nine of the 16 telegraph stations depicted in the War Department were
> fully operational," explained Morse Telegraph Club International
> President James Wade, WB8SIW. "These instruments could be operated in
> any combination through the use of a specialized computer program and
> custom-built terminal units for the process. When necessary, a hand key
> could be inserted in the individual telegraph loops so messages could
> be improvised." Read more here
> <http://www.arrl.org/news/morse-code-plays-role-in-new-spielberg-movie>.

This story has piqued my interest for a special reason: I have a collection of landline telegraph instruments, and I would like to know what happened to one particular type of telegraph set which seems to have vanished from the Earth.

Anyone who looks at ebay or other auction sites will find a plethora of the landline morse instruments for sale that were used in railroad depots and commercial telegraph offices: keys are plentiful, as are sounders, and there are plenty of "mainline" relays too, along with "swing arm" resonators, and even the old "peg" types of switchboard.

However, the "Rare DX" of the landline telegraph world is a thing called a repeater, which is, as the name implies, a bidirectional device equipped with specially made relays which could repeat telegraph signals coming from either one of its inputs to the other. They seem to have vanished into thin air when the landline telegraph system was decommissioned.

So, here's the question: what happened to the repeaters? They had to be fairly common, giving the limitations of the ground-return single-wire signalling used in landline telegraphy, yet I've never seen one in a museum display, and I've only seen maybe five of them listed for sale in the last twenty years. I'm not a dealer or anything like that: I'm just curious why such an essential part of the old landline network seems to have vanished completely, even from museums.

BTW, kudos to the Morse Telegraph Club for its work on the "Lincoln" film: anyone who has seen previous films, and cringed at the sight of an actor "sending" Morse code with the key's shorting lever closed can attest to the need for more accurate reproductions of telegraph stations and better training of the actors when films feature Morse code. I hope

Mr. Spielberg's project will set an example for future directors and
producers of how it should be done.

73,

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

287. FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-11-30 16:29:51 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-525011-2012.11.30-10.52.02--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 56
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 229 November 3
0, 2012

[...]

Released: 11/30/2012. WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU, PUBLIC SAFETY
AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU, AND OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY PROV
IDE REMINDER OF JANUARY 1, 2013 DEADLINE FOR TRANSITION TO NARROWBAND OPERA
TIONS IN THE 150-174 MHZ AND 421-470 MHZ BANDS. (DA No. 12-1914). OET PSH
SB WTB . Contact: Melvin Spann at (202) 418-1333, email: Melvin.Spann@fcc.
gov, Roberto Mussenden at (202) 418-1428, email: Roberto.Mussenden@fcc.gov
or Andy Leimer at (301) 362-3049, email: Andrew.Leimer@fcc.gov http://hraun
foss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1914A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1914A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1914A1.txt

[...]

288. Re: Can hams get hold of the old rigs? (was - FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-02 02:45:01 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <k9efb8$648$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 57

On 11/30/2012 11:29 AM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:

> Released: 11/30/2012. WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU, PUBLIC SAFETY
> AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU, AND OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY PROV
> IDE REMINDER OF JANUARY 1, 2013 DEADLINE FOR TRANSITION TO NARROWBAND OPERA
> TIONS IN THE 150-174 MHZ AND 421-470 MHZ BANDS.

I'm going to ask the readers to re-educate an old FM tech a little bit. As I understand it, the "new" bandwidths require +/- 2.5 KHz deviation, which I /thought/ was called "sliver" band, but I haven't seen that term used lately.

Here's another question: I think the majority of "current" commercial FM transceivers are computer programmable, but I wonder if they are able to change their transmit deviation and/or receiver bandwidth to the new requirements under software control: if not, hams might be able to make use of them for our public service efforts. A primer on the current "state of the art" in programmable FM rigs would be nice.

Since the "new" spacing is 12.5 KHz, I assume that the "old" +/- 5 KHz units will have to be replaced, especially if their software doesn't allow the transmitters to be cut back to the more narrow deviation. If that's the case, I wonder if any of the manufacturers will be willing to cooperate in a program like the one we used to have for Teletype machines, where hams could buy units that were being replaced, as long as they agreed to keep them from being used in commercial service.

Come to think of it, are police/fire/municipal licensees subject to the changes that other Part 90 users are going through? If they are, then there might be an opportunity to transfer /their/ old gear into ARES or RACES use.

Thoughts? Ideas?

TIA.

73,

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne

289. Re: Can hams get hold of the old rigs? (was - FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-02 05:37:34 UTC
From: Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net>
Message-ID: <k9efqo$89j$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 58

On 12/1/2012 9:45 PM, Bill Horne wrote:
> On 11/30/2012 11:29 AM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:
>
>> Released: 11/30/2012. WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU, PUBLIC
>> SAFETY
>> AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU, AND OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
>> PROV
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>> OPERA
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> As I understand it, the "new" bandwidths require +/- 2.5 KHz deviation,
> which I /thought/ was called "sliver" band, but I haven't seen that term
> used lately.
>
> Here's another question: I think the majority of "current" commercial FM
> transceivers are computer programmable, but I wonder if they are able to
> change their transmit deviation and/or receiver bandwidth to the new
> requirements under software control: if not, hams might be able to make
> use of them for our public service efforts. A primer on the current
> "state of the art" in programmable FM rigs would be nice.
>
> Since the "new" spacing is 12.5 KHz, I assume that the "old" +/- 5 KHz
> units will have to be replaced, especially if their software doesn't
> allow the transmitters to be cut back to the more narrow deviation. If
> that's the case, I wonder if any of the manufacturers will be willing to
> cooperate in a program like the one we used to have for Teletype
> machines, where hams could buy units that were being replaced, as long
> as they agreed to keep them from being used in commercial service.
>
> Come to think of it, are police/fire/municipal licensees subject to the
> changes that other Part 90 users are going through? If they are, then
> there might be an opportunity to transfer /their/ old gear into ARES or
> RACES use.
>
> Thoughts? Ideas?
>
> TIA.
>
> 73,
>
> Bill, W1AC
>

Bill,

That would be great if it could happen. I remember back in the late 60's and early 70's when we could get Motorola "G" and "A" strips and GE Prog Lines cheap. This was before commercial 2 meter ham radios were available. I converted a number of them from VHF High band to 2 meters. Even though they were only one channel (a few had two channels), we were tickled to get our hands on them.

--
==========
Remove the "x" from my email address
Jerry, AI0K
jstucklex@attglobal.net
==========

290. Re: Can hams get hold of the old rigs? (was - FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-02 06:07:45 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@kanafi.org>
Message-ID: <d7rlb81tdmcptpo7v975kmv15n1iuuinqa@4ax.com>
Source record: 59

On Sat, 1 Dec 2012 21:45:01 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> wrote:

>I'm going to ask the readers to re-educate an old FM tech a little bit.
>As I understand it, the "new" bandwidths require +/- 2.5 KHz deviation,
>which I /thought/ was called "sliver" band, but I haven't seen that term
>used lately.

Are you thinking of "splinter frequencies" which were half the
bandwidth of "regular" frequencies? They existed at the boundaries of
services that had different channel plans and were used primarily for
data.

>Here's another question: I think the majority of "current" commercial FM
>transceivers are computer programmable, but I wonder if they are able to
>change their transmit deviation and/or receiver bandwidth to the new
>requirements under software control:

Yes.

>Since the "new" spacing is 12.5 KHz, I assume that the "old" +/- 5 KHz
>units will have to be replaced, especially if their software doesn't
>allow the transmitters to be cut back to the more narrow deviation. If
>that's the case, I wonder if any of the manufacturers will be willing to
>cooperate in a program like the one we used to have for Teletype
>machines, where hams could buy units that were being replaced, as long
>as they agreed to keep them from being used in commercial service.

Dream on. Equipment certified and manufactured for the last decade or
so has been required to be "narrow-band-able". One of the deals that
most manufacturers have is a discount for turning in old equipment
which are sent to the crusher. The days of giving or selling them to
the hams are history.

>Come to think of it, are police/fire/municipal licensees subject to the
>changes that other Part 90 users are going through? If they are, then
>there might be an opportunity to transfer /their/ old gear into ARES or
>RACES use.

See above. The only delays in the mandatory narrow-banding date
(1/1/2013) have been granted when the licensee has ordered the new
equipment in a timely manner and the production, installation, and
cutover date has been delayed. They are granted on a case-by-case
basis (my consutrling engineering firm has handled the paperwork for
several of our clients in these circumstances).

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

291. Re: Can hams get hold of the old rigs? (was - FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-02 11:55:42 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <k9ffji$gi6$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 60

On 12/2/2012 1:07 AM, Phil Kane wrote:
> ... Equipment certified and manufactured for the last decade or
> so has been required to be "narrow-band-able". One of the deals that
> most manufacturers have is a discount for turning in old equipment
> which are sent to the crusher. The days of giving or selling them to
> the hams are history.

Say it ain't so!

(Shakes head, takes a deep breath)

OK, I'll grasp at a few straws:

* Does "Narrow-band-able" mean that techs can only turn
down the transmitter deviation, or is there a way to
actually reduce the receiver bandwidth as well? I
worked on FM gear when there were crystal or LC filters,
so even if hams can't benefit, I'm curious how the
receivers are updated "in place".

* Are the discounts you mention significant? I mean,
are they deep enough that a purchasing agent could
not consider offers from Amateur clubs or organizations?

* How can hams find out who/where the old gear might be for
sale? Have all the contracts already been written, or
are there any users that are still shopping for the
new gear?

TIA.

73,

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne

292. Re: Can hams get hold of the old rigs? (was - FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-03 00:11:57 UTC
From: richard@richbonnie.com
Message-ID: <rm6nb89agaguhodfidr5qk7o590v07ks2q@4ax.com>
Source record: 61

On Sun, 2 Dec 2012 01:07:45 EST, Phil Kane <k2asp@kanafi.org> wrote:

>On Sat, 1 Dec 2012 21:45:01 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> wrote:
>
>>Since the "new" spacing is 12.5 KHz, I assume that the "old" +/- 5 KHz
>>units will have to be replaced, especially if their software doesn't
>>allow the transmitters to be cut back to the more narrow deviation. If
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>>cooperate in a program like the one we used to have for Teletype
>>machines, where hams could buy units that were being replaced, as long
>>as they agreed to keep them from being used in commercial service.
>
>Dream on. Equipment certified and manufactured for the last decade or
>so has been required to be "narrow-band-able". One of the deals that
>most manufacturers have is a discount for turning in old equipment
>which are sent to the crusher. The days of giving or selling them to
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>>Come to think of it, are police/fire/municipal licensees subject to the
>>changes that other Part 90 users are going through? If they are, then
>>there might be an opportunity to transfer /their/ old gear into ARES or
>>RACES use.

Everyone in the VHF/UHF range must change to narrow-band FM, except
for Amateurs.

In my county of Nye, NV, one of our ARES members worked with a county
radio tech, traveling all over the county (third largest in area in
U.S.) readjusting radios to the new deviation standard. About 1/5 of
the radios were too old to convert, so the county has to buy new
replacements. The county is giving the old radios to our county ARES
group.

We have an excellent relationship with the county emergency services
department. We have demonstrated that we can communicate into areas
where they cannot with their radios. They have purchased HF and V/UHF
ham radios for use in radio rooms in their buildings in the three
largest towns in the county. ARES uses their building in Pahrump for
meetings and training. We also hold VE license exams there. Even the
emergency services department head is a ham and an ARES member.

Dick Grady, AC7EL

293. Re: Can hams get hold of the old rigs? (was - FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-03 00:13:04 UTC
From: John Ferrell <W8CCW@arrl.net>
Message-ID: <s1qnb8939eusjh35h4a8d1u6b72l2cv96k@4ax.com>
Source record: 62

The Public Safety organizations are under the same FCC as everyone
else. Our little volunteer fire department was required to update
working radios to the latest requirements. It is costing us $65,000
and our annual budget is about $95,000. The new radios will not have
any advantage for us, but we need to remain in sync with the other
organizations in our state. The old radios are not likely to be of any
use to Amateur Radio considering 2 meter / 440mhz HT's are available
below $100. OTH, the cases are very rugged and might encourage some
Ham experimenting on microwaves. I am thinking Crossband links.

The problem driving the required upgrades is to free more spectrum for
commercial activity.

73, W8CCW John

On Sat, 1 Dec 2012 21:45:01 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> wrote:

>On 11/30/2012 11:29 AM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:
>
>> Released: 11/30/2012. WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU, PUBLIC SAFETY
>> AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU, AND OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY PROV
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>I'm going to ask the readers to re-educate an old FM tech a little bit.
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>which I /thought/ was called "sliver" band, but I haven't seen that term
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>transceivers are computer programmable, but I wonder if they are able to
>change their transmit deviation and/or receiver bandwidth to the new
>requirements under software control: if not, hams might be able to make
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>Thoughts? Ideas?
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>TIA.
>
>73,
>
>Bill, W1AC
John Ferrell W8CCW

294. Re: Can hams get hold of the old rigs? (was - FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-03 01:46:53 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@kanafi.org>
Message-ID: <vs0ob8hip4ac9d3a2oals0crkjinhe8no1@4ax.com>
Source record: 63

On Sun, 2 Dec 2012 06:55:42 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> wrote:

>* Does "Narrow-band-able" mean that techs can only turn
> down the transmitter deviation, or is there a way to
> actually reduce the receiver bandwidth as well? I
> worked on FM gear when there were crystal or LC filters,
> so even if hams can't benefit, I'm curious how the
> receivers are updated "in place".

It's built into the receiver design (filters). The receiver bandwidth
needs to be narrowed lest adjacent-channel signals cause impaired
reception. The FCC has gone on record that they will not protect
receivers that have not been narrow-banded.

>* Are the discounts you mention significant? I mean,
> are they deep enough that a purchasing agent could
> not consider offers from Amateur clubs or organizations?

It's part of the package.

>* How can hams find out who/where the old gear might be for
> sale? Have all the contracts already been written, or
> are there any users that are still shopping for the
> new gear?

You can try to contact the agencies, but in general, the newer gear is
now in service and the old stuff gone.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

295. Re: Can hams get hold of the old rigs? (was - FCC Daily Digest 11/30/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-03 01:50:26 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@kanafi.org>
Message-ID: <291ob8dskrbm8tuds7man5pngk4dlifpvj@4ax.com>
Source record: 64

On Sun, 2 Dec 2012 19:11:57 EST, richard@richbonnie.com wrote:

>Everyone in the VHF/UHF range must change to narrow-band FM, except
>for Amateurs.

And maritime (ships and coast stations).

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

296. FCC Daily Digest 12/06/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-06 17:14:26 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-525124-2012.12.06-11.32.44--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 65
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 233 December 0
6, 2012

[...]

GLEN RUBASH. Notified Glen Rubash of an apparent liability for forfeitur
e in the amount of $10,000 for operation of an unlicensed radio station. Ac
tion by: District Director, Kansas City Office, South Central Region, Enfo
rcement Bureau. Adopted: 12/05/2012 by NAL. (DA No. 12-1948). EB http://
hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.txt

[...]

297. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1843 - December 7 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-07 10:00:19 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121207100004.105F033C2F@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 66
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1843 - December 7 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1843 with a release date of December 7, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. Hams provide emergency communications as a massive typhoon hits the Philippines; The IARU Region 3 Monitoring System notes an increase in the number of intrusions into the amateur radio bands; hams in Taiwan say that they are in need of additional operating spectrum and the FCC plans to hold several hearings on the communications breakdowns caused by Hurricane Sandy. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1843 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMS PROVIDE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS IN WAKE OF TYPHOON BOPHA

When Typhoon Bopha hit the Philippines, it uprooted trees, downed power lines, sparked landslides and made 40,000 people head for shelters. And ham radio was out in the middle of it doing what it does best. Providing emergency communications as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF:

--

When it made landfall on December 4th local time in the Philippines, Typhoon Bopha was the strongest of about 20 typhoons to affect that country in recent times. The storm brought with it heavy rain and winds gusting 110 to 130 miles per hour as it came ashore near the city of Mindanao.

The Philippine Amateur Radio Association had its emergency radio operations in activated by the time the typhoon struck. Ham radio operators immediately began assisting in the communication needs of several cities using all available means of communication. This included a high frequency net on 7.095 MHz, VHF FM on 144.740 MHz, the internet and even social media to monitor the situation and give updates to those in need.

RADNET 5, a local amateur radio club in Tacloban was active in helping provide the city with a vital communications link. It's members were in constant coordination with the City Disaster Risk Reduction

Management Council. As this report is prepared, so far it has assisted in the evacuation of 5,700 families.

RADNET 5 also was assisting the Red Cross in Tacloban and Saint Bernard. The government of Tacloban City has been using its Convention Center as one of its evacuation centers.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

According to news reports, casualties have been minimal, due to preparations, the cooperation of evacuees and the mammoth response and recovery efforts. More on this story as developments warrant. (DU1EV, PARA)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: IARU REGION 3 MONITORING SYSTEM DETECTS NEW INTERERENCE

The IARU Region 3 Monitoring System notes an increase in the number of intrusions in the higher frequency bands, particular from Over the Horizon Radar on 15 meters. In the newsletter Peter Young VK3MV reports that some of these radar emissions into northern Australia are very strong and a report has been filed with the Australian Regulator which is seeking information and their removal.

With high frequency propagation improving there are more sightings of intrusions on 10 meters from low power commercial like services. These include reports of High Frequency Man Pack operations that are being logged. Unfortunately, due to the random nature of these signals locating their source is difficult.

Also, reported is a Burmese broadcast station operating on 7 dot 110 MHz in the 40 meter band. It has been reported to the Australian telecommunications regulator in the hope of using international diplomatic channels to get it to move out of the 40 meter ham radio allocation. (IARU R-3)

**

RESTRUCTURING: TAIWAN RADIO HAMS SEEK ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS

Hams in Taiwan say that they are in need of additional operating spectrum and have prepared a report that explains what, where and why. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, has the details:

--

Taiwan's national society the CTARL, presented a paper regarding amateur radio in that country at the recent IARU Region 3 conference. In it the Taiwanese ham radio community says that it is seeking to expand several amateur allocations.

On 80 meters where they currently only have 3.5 to 3.5125 and 3.55 to 3.5625 MHz, they are seeking an allocation from 3.5 to 3.9 MHz. On 6 meters they have just 50 to 50.0125 and 50.11 to 50.1225 MHz. As such they are seeking the entire 50.0 to 54.0 MHz band and to add 146 to 148 MHz to their existing 144 to 146 MHz allocation.

Taiwan has very limited amateur allocations in the UHF and Microwave bands, only 430 to 432, 1260 to 1265 and 2440 to 2450 MHz. There they seek to expand these allocations to from 430 to 440 and 1240 to 1300 MHz.

Of interest, the CTARL reports that its membership is now just 362. In 2000 the IARU reported it had a membership of 1264 out of an amateur population of 24,324. This indicates that they have lost 72% of their members this century and one can speculate that perhaps the number of radio amateurs in that nation has had a similar sharp decline.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, in Nelson. New Zealand.

--

By way of comparison, Taiwan's population is 23 million or about 1/14th that of the United States. The US now boasts over 700,000 FCC licensed amateur radio service licenses. (IARU-R3)

**

ENFORCEMENT: AUSTRALIA'S ACMA TO CRACK DOWN ON NON COMPLIANT RF INTERFERENCE CAUSING DEVICES

The Australian Communications and Media Authority is looking for devices that pose a high a high risk to the orderly use of the radio spectrum and to public safety.

ACMA Field Staff, particularly in Western Australia, are looking for such items as mobile phone and GPS jammers, both of which are prohibited in VK land. Also on the ACMA's list of illegal communications devices are mobile phone repeaters, and non-compliant devices such as high power cordless phones and headsets.

A comment by a radio amateur to the ACMA claimed there was concern about non-compliant imported goods that are stamped as being compliant. The unidentified ham wants the ACMA to clamp down on switch mode power supplies used in plasma TV sets that don't meet the standards and cause much of the interference.

As of now, the ACMA rules enforcement campaign will include education and traditional legal measures. It will also focus on improving the supply chain compliance of on-line, or over the internet purchased devices. In other words if you are a seller of such goods on any of the on-line auctions that are banned in Australia, the ACMA will be taking a long and hard look at you, no matter what nation you operate out of. (VK3PC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: MID SEVERN RAYNET ACTIVATED AFTER FLOOD WARNING

The United Kingdom's Mid Severn Valley RAYNET called out on Sunday, November 25th. This, in support of flood preparations as waters rose on a near by river.

With very short notice available members of Mid Severn group were requested by the Worcestershire County Council County Volunteers Emergency Committee to be ready for assignment due to the rising waters of the River Severn. Emergency Planning Officers were concerned at the potential for flooding of adjacent residential properties in parts of Worcester city centre.

Multi agency teams from the County Volunteers Emergency Committee were tasked with notifying homeowners of the threat as well as issuing warnings advice and leaflets. They were also to report back to Social Services on those residents who may not be able to evacuate and could require rest centre assistance.

G8WOX, G6DQM and M0VNG deployed with the team. Having on the ground liaison through RAYNET channels reportedly made of the task a lot easier, especially with some of the properties being so new and road names were not yet in place.

The RAYNET teams completed the task in the early evening and stood down. News reports say that residents were most appreciative of the efforts made to alert them. (UK RAYNET, Southhgate)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the KD8LWR repeater serving Washtenaw County, Michigan.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO LAW: KALISPELL MONTANA CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS DIVIDED OVER CITY CELLPHONE BAN AND HAM RADIO EXEMPTION

A draft cell phone ban for drivers in Kalispell, Montana from using cellphones while in motion has drawn mixed responses from City Council members. This is because one council member seems to object to exemptions made for users of other portable and fixed vehicle electronics including ham radio gear.

The current proposal mirrors bans enacted in most other Montana cities. The draft ordinance would prohibit people from using handheld electronic communication devices such as cell phones while they are driving or riding a bike. Breaking the law would be considered as a primary offense and civil infraction punishable by fines up to $100 for

a first offense and $300 for later offenses.

However some council members don't feel that the proposed ban goes far enough. Council person Kari Gabriel questioned why the ordinance does not include portable music devices such as iPods. She also expressed concern about an exemption in the ordinance for people who hold amateur radio operator licenses.

In a statement quoted by the press, Gabriel said that she does not think the overall idea is bad, but the ordinance is not written as it should be. In other words hinting that it should be far more inclusive.

Other council members raised concerns about how the ban would be enforced and how effective it would be with so many other activities contributing to distracted driving. Some of them expressed hope for a countywide or even statewide ban on all such activities. (Daily Interlake)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC PLANS HEARINGS ON EFFECTS OF HURRICANE SANDY

The FCC plans to hold several field hearings on the challenges faced by communications networks in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

Though the agency focused on wired and wireless phones in the announcement, the commission also included broadcasting, noting its experts will want to know how the power held up in studios and at transmitter sites.

Specifically, the agency is asking things like: When commercial power is unavailable, how long should back-up power sources be expected to last?

Beginning in the New Year, the hearings will focus on the challenges faced by communications service providers, state and local officials, emergency personnel and consumers before, during and after Sandy as well as other natural disasters. Business representatives, public safety officials, engineering and academic experts, consumers and other stakeholders will take part.

New York Senator Chuck Schumer had called for the commission to develop a roadmap to better protect critical communications functions during major disasters. (RW)

**

ON THE SCREEN: HAMS PROVIDE REALISTIC WAR DEPARTMENT SET FOR FILM LINCOLN

Members of the Morse Telegraph Club are reported to have played an important role in the production of the Steven Speilberg motion picture "Lincoln."

Jim Wades, WB8SIW, is the International President of the Morse Telegraph Club. He says that several members provided period telegraph instruments for use in the construction of the War Department Set.

Jim Wades was employed as a Technical Advisor for the production, worked with set designers over a period of months to develop the War Department telegraph scenes. Wades coordinated the process of procuring the necessary instruments and served as a historical consultant as the telegraph scenes were developed. Most notably W1TP, WB0TUA, N7JKD and Roger Reinke provided telegraph instruments to equip the sixteen operating positions portrayed at the War Department set.

Nine of the sixteen telegraph positions depicted in the War Department were fully operational. These instruments could be operated in any combination through the use of a specialized computer program and terminal units custom built by WB8SIW for the process. When necessary, a hand key could be inserted in the individual telegraph loops so messages could be improvised

Jim Wilson, K4BAV, and his son, Matt Wilson had minor roles as Extras. K4BAV also worked with production staff and the actors to explain telegraph technology and the role of the telegrapher.

The Morse Telegraph Club is an association of retired railroad and commercial telegraphers, historians, radio amateurs and others with an interest in the history and traditions of telegraphy and the telegraph industry. (ARRL, RAC, WIA)

**

HAM RADIO ON STAGE: TITANIC RADIO SIGNAL MAN INSPIRES NEW STAGE SHOW

The Western Mail newspaper reports that the man who picked up the distress signal from the Titanic over his amateur radio from his shed in Pontllanfraith has inspired a new stage drama.

Called Whispers On The Waves, the play was motivated by the real life story of Welsh wireless operator Artie Moore. Moore is reported to have heard a distress signal from Titanic before news of the disaster arrived in the UK.

The cast of the show features children from Meadowbank School in Cardiff. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/titanic-stage-show. (Western Mail)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: 2013 SOUTHEASTERN VHF SOCIETY CONFERENCE

The 2013 Southeastern VHF Society Conference, sponsored by the Florida Weak Signal Society, will be held next April 19th and 20th. This at the Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront in Cocoa Beach, Florida.

Planned so far are a full slate of events including, a surplus tour, antenna range and noise figure testing, a Friday luncheon and Friday

night flea market. The Saturday night banquet will have awards for the best paper and the best presentation.

For more information plase check on-line at www.svhfs.org or contact Chuck Hoover, K0VXM, by e-mail to k0vxmfl (at) gmail (dot) com. (K0VXM)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: PROTECTED BEETLE SPECIES CAUSES CANCELLATION OF 2013 PALM SPRINGS HAMFEST

The Palm Springs Hamfest slated for Saturday, January 26th 2013 has been cancelled due to an endangered species of bug that lives in and around the shows venue. This after the city of Riverside County, California, acts to protect the Dinocoma Brunnescens beetle habitat.

Nope we are not kidding. According the Desert RATS Amateur Radio Club that sponsors the event part of the area in which previous Palm Springs Hamfest had been held has been deemed a protective habitat for this creature of nature. As such, it is therefore no longer available as an event site. And to make matters worse, the radio club was not notified of the situation in time to locate another venue for the 2013 event.

Current plans are to hold the next Palm Springs Hamfest the third weekend in March of 2014 at a venue that is ham radio friendly rather than beetle protected. In the meantime the Desert Rats says that it regrets any inconvenience to those who already made travel and accommodation plans.

For further information you may contact Desert RATS Past President, Peter Reinzuch, VE7REZ by e-mail to ve7rez (at) gmail (dot) com. (Desert RATS ARC)

**

SUPERSTITION HAMFEST DELAYED. TO BE RESCHEDULED FOR EARLY 2013.

The Superstition Arizona Hamfest, that was originally slated for Saturday, December 1st has been pushed back at least 60 days. This due to what's being termed as a last minute paperwork timing issue.

According to Larry Kuck, WB7C, the problem arose on the Monday before the hamfest and sponsors were not able to resolve it in time to keep the scheduled date. Kuck advises that those who have purchased Main Prize drawing tickets are advised to hold on to them as they will be good toward the same drawing when the hamfest is held sometime in early 2013.

For further updates on the delay and to what for the new date please take your web browser to tinyurl.com/superstition-delayed. (WB7C, QRZ.com)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: RADIO WORLD EXCELLENCE IN ENGINEERING AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED

Turning to names in the news, word that Paul Brenner will receive the 2012 Radio World Excellence in Engineering Award from the editors of Radio World. Brenner is senior vice president and chief technology officer for Emmis Communications. He also is originator of the HD Radio data distribution consortium business model and serves as president of the Broadcaster Traffic Consortium, LLC (BTC).

Radio World is a newspaper for broadcast radio managers and engineers. Recipients of the Radio World Excellence in Engineering Award are said to represent the highest ideals of the U.S. radio broadcast engineering profession and reflect those ideals through contributions to the industry. The announcement of Brenner's selection was made by U.S. Editor in Chief Paul J. McLane (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: ARRL CEO INTERVIEWED BY URGENT COMMUNICATIONS MAGAZINE

ARRL Chief Executive Officer Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, has attributed the increased popularity in ham radio in part to the do-it-yourself movement that is sweeping the country and the world.

Author Glenn Bischoff of Urgent Communications magazine took the opportunity to interview K1ZZ while he was visiting New York. Sumner is quoted as saying that the perception is that we're stuck in the Sixties. But the number of licenses continues to grow. In fact, this is the sixth straight year of growth.

K1ZZ attributed at least part of the increased popularity in part to the do-it-yourself movement. He noted that so-called D-I-Y clubs are popping up from coast to coast.

You can read the entire article on-line at urgentcomm.com/blog/singing-praises-unsung-heroes (Southgate)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: 2013 INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE AND LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND

While its still months away, plans are already going forward for the 3013 International Lighthouse and Lightship weekend as we hear from Jim

Linton, VK3PC:

--

The 100th registration for this event is in. It comes from the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club, Emden clubstation DL0EM at the Campen Lighthouse, on the North Coast of Germany.

Active since 1891 with Germany's most powerful lighthouse lamp, in the mouth of the Ems River, and with its lattice tower construction it stands 65 metres or 213 feet tall.

Listen for clubstation DL0EM with a team of operators on the HF bands.

The International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend is an annual fun and friendly event sponsored by the Ayr Radio Group on the third full weekend of August.

The basic objective is to promote public awareness of the historic structures and their need for preservation, promotion of amateur radio and to foster international goodwill.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline this is Jim Linton VK3PC.

--

If you would like to know more or register online for the next event on August the 17th and 18th visit the website illw dot net

(VK3PC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: YOUNGSTERS ON THE AIR THE SUMMER 2013

IARU Region 1 Youth Coordinator Lisa Leenders, PA2LS sends us word on plans for next years European Youth Radio Camp or YOTA. Amateur Radio Newsline's Heather Embee, KB3TZD, has more:

--

During the summer of 2013, a youth radio camp called Youngsters on the Air will be held in Estonia. The event is being organized by the Estonian Radio Amateurs Union. During this week teams of young radio amateurs from 10 different European countries will be participating in different ham radio related activities. These include presentations, competitions, visiting radio stations and much more.

A team consists of a team leader, who could be an older person, and 4 team members ranging in the age from 14 to 25. There will be 10 teams in total representing different European member associations of IARU Region 1.

This outstanding ham radio youth event will take place near the city of Tartu. If you are in Europe and if your organization is interested in taking part, please respond not later than December 20th by means of

the downloadable form that you will find on-line at tinyurl.com/European-youth-radio.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Heatrer Embee, KB3TZD, reporting from Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

The date for this European ham radio youth outing are August 5th to the 12th of 2013. And as previous events in Romania and a combined outing in the Netherlands and Belgium have shown, this will be an amazing experience for the young hams which they will not soon forget. (IARU Region 1)

**

RADIO PHENOMA: IRELAND IS CAMPBELL ISLAND'S ANTIPODE

The much-anticipated DXpedition to Campbell Island, a sub-Antarctic island south of New Zealand, is now underway. And now comes word that Campbell Island's antipode which is described as the point on the Earth's surface diametrically opposite to its location is not far off the south-west coast of Ireland.

Nigel Cawthore, is G3TXF, in Surry, England. He has pointed out that this should provide considerable propagation enhancement across the spectrum for Ireland stations near the antipode. This due to the phenomenon of antipodean focusing which at least in theory can boost signal levels between stations located near their respective sides of the path.

Or to put it another way, those with hams living in Cork and Kerry may be very popular over the next few weeks. (IRTS)

**

DX

In DX, H44RK will be active as 5W0RK from Samoa between December 8th and March 3rd from Samoa. Operations will be on 20 through 10 meters using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via NR6M.

W8YCM will be on the air stroke 6Y5 from Jamaica until the new year. Hes been heard on 17 through 10 meters using SSB. QSL via his home callsign.

ZS6RI will be active from Lesotho for 20 weeks beginning December 17th using the call 7P8RI from Lesotho. Operations will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via details are at QRZ.com.

TA3J will be active stroke Oh N from various locations in Belgium between December 7th and the 11th. Operations will be on 160 through 2 meters using SSB and FM. QSL to his home callsigneau

And word that JH1NBN will be active from both Pohnpei Island and Yap Island in the not to distant future. He will use the call V63AQ and will be operational on the High Frequency bands using SSB. Moire details to follow. QSL via home call.

N2GG will be on the air as C6AGG from Grand Bahama Island through December 13th. Activity is holiday style on 80 through 10 meters using mostly SSB with some CW. QSL via N2GG.

The Italian Dxpedition Team has announced that its next operation will be from Burkina Faso between February and March 2013. This will be a 15 day affair on all bands and using all modes. The pilot station for HF operation is IK7JWY, and the pilot for 6 meter band is IK0FTA with real time logging on line by IH9GPI. More o this upcoming operation is on-line at i2ysb.com/idt

Lastly, K7ZO will be active from Nicaragua as YN5ZO through December 10th. Operations will be on 40 through 10 meters, including 30, 17 and 12 meters using SSB and RTTY. QSL via K7ZO direct or using Logbook of the World.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: CELEBRATING THE MAYAN END OF THE WORLD

Finally this week, according to one of the three Mayan Calendars, the end of the world will occur on December 21, 2012. And to celebrate this possibly once in a lifetime event, special event station N-Zero-D which stands for Now Zero Days will be activated on 80 through 10 meters and on several satellite passes for three days during and after the planets destruction. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, takes a look at the operation and what the Mayans say is to come:

--

According to the event planners down in Texas, December 20th will be the celebration of the end of the world. December 21, the day of destruction, they will be on the air as long as possible. As to December 22nd, well that is a little iffy right now.

And less we forget to mention it, you too can become an Official Doomsday Station by registering at www.nowzerodays.com . Those who do will receive a registration number and the authority to identify yourself as "Official Doomsday Station" followed by your Official Doomsday Number.

Official Doomsday stations will receive the Doomsday Station Certificate. Stations contacting at least 10 Official Doomsday Stations during the event will be recognized on the group's website. If there still is one.

QSL's with Self Addressed Stamped Envelope to KK5W at the address on QRZ.com. If Doomsday actually does happen, the event sponsors regret

that a QSL will not be possible so hold on to your QSL card and SASE at least until December 22nd.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, waiting it out here in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

And if we might add a suggestion of our own: If that particular Mayan calendar is correct and December 21st is to be the end of the world, we are told that the best way to enjoy it is to watch it all implode from your picture window table at Milliways. That's the famed restaurant at the end of the universe. You can find complete directions on how to get there in your copy of the Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy authored by the late Douglas Adams. And most important of all, don't forget to bring along your Babblefish and at least one clean towel. (N0D)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, in Charleston, West Virginia, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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298. The ARRL Letter for December 6, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-07 15:45:29 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121207125459.89B0A26D41C@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 67
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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**********************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
**********************************************

December 6, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + Amateur Radio in Space: NASA Now Accepting Applications for Hosting
a Real-Time Conversation with ISS Crewmembers
- + On the Air: Rookies Ride the Wave in the ARRL CW Rookie Roundup
- + FCC News: Kansas Ham Issued $10,000 Fine for Operation of
Unlicensed Broadcast Station
- ARRL in Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?
- + On the Air: ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee Seeks Input on 6
and 3 Centimeter Bands
- ARRL Invites Nominations for 2012 International Humanitarian Award
- Solar Update
- + ARRL Recognizes: Robert Bastone, WC3O, Wins November QST Cover
Plaque Award
- + RAC Announces New Incoming QSL Bureau Address
- + New QuickStats Poll Now Available on ARRL Website
- This Week in Radiosport
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

The last ARRL Letter and ARRL Audio News for 2012 will be published
Thursday, December 13. The ARRL Letter and ARRL Audio News will resume
on Thursday, January 10, 2013.

==> + AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE: NASA NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
HOSTING A REAL-TIME CONVERSATION WITH ISS CREWMEMBERS

NASA is now accepting proposals from US schools, museums, science
centers and community youth organizations -- individually or working
together -- to host an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station
(ARISS <http://ariss.rac.ca/oindex.htm>) contact between May 1, 2013
and November 1, 2013. To maximize these radio contact opportunities,
NASA is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of
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participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan. Radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length. ARISS contacts are supported by the program's US partners -- the ARRL and AMSAT <http://www.amsat.org/> -- and their member volunteers, as well as other international space agencies and Amateur Radio partners. Proposals are due January 28, 2013.

Interested parties can visit the ARRL website <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-on-the-international-space-station> or the NASA Teaching From Space website <http://www.nasa.gov/education/tfs/ariss> for information about proposal requirements and how to submit a proposal, as well as links to audio and videos of archived contacts. Five information sessions are also available for groups who are considering submitting an ARISS proposal. Access to the Internet and a telephone line are required to connect to a session. Information on how to sign up for these sessions is available on the ARRL and NASA websites.

==> + ON THE AIR: ROOKIES RIDE THE WAVE IN THE ARRL CW ROOKIE ROUNDUP

Newly licensed CW buffs can get their copying skills in shape on Sunday, December 16 as the CW edition of the ARRL Rookie Roundup takes to the airwaves! The Rookie Roundup combines a competitive event with some on-the-air training, with the goal of bringing fun and Elmering into the 21st century. Who is a Rookie? Any amateur licensed for three years or less, regardless of license class. If you received your license in 2010, 2011 or 2012, you're eligible to compete as a Rookie; stations licensed before 2010 can only submit checklogs, but they will be recognized in the final results. Old Timers are encouraged to get on the air and work the Rookies. This is an immediate, hands-on way to teach good operating practices to those just getting started. The Rookie Roundup is also an excellent activity for clubs, offering a chance for club members to open their doors to those newer club members. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/rookies-ride-the-wave-in-the-arrl-cw-rookie-roundup>.

==> + FCC NEWS: KANSAS HAM ISSUED $10,000 FINE FOR OPERATION OF UNLICENSED BROADCAST STATION

On December 5, Glen Rubash, KC0GPV, of Dwight, Kansas, was issued a $10,000 fine for what the FCC called "willfully and Repeatedly" violating Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 88.3 MHz in Manhattan, Kansas.

In response to a complaint, agents from the FCC's Kansas City office used direction finding equipment techniques to locate the source of radio frequency transmissions on the frequency 88.3 MHz. According to a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture issued on December 6, agents found an FM transmitting antenna mounted on a pole next to a residence in Manhattan, Kansas on September 26, 2012. The agents

determined that the signals on 88.3 MHz exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 and therefore required a license. The FCC noted that its records showed that no authorization was issued to Rubash or to anyone else for operation of an FM broadcast stations at or near this location. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/kansas-ham-issued-10-000-fine-for-operation-of-unlicensed-broadcast-station>.

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

This feature is a concise monthly update of some of the things that the ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment -- which covers the month of November -- takes a look at the November elections for ARRL Director and Vice Director, the new QST app for Apple devices, bug fixes for ARRL's Logbook of The World, W1AW activities, , reports from the Official Observer Desk and more. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-in-action-what-have-we-been-up-to-lately-52>.

==> + ON THE AIR: ARRL UHF/MICROWAVE BAND PLAN COMMITTEE SEEKS INPUT ON 6 AND 3 CENTIMETER BANDS

Last year, in recognition of the need to update the published band plans for our UHF and microwave bands, the ARRL Board of Directors formed the UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee to develop revised national plans for the amateur bands between 902 MHz and 3.5 GHz. After receiving extensive user input, the committee completed its task and the resulting band plans were approved by the Board in July 2012. The committee has now received an additional assignment to conduct a similar update to the 6 and 3 centimeter bands. In order to do this effectively, the committee needs to know how various segments of these bands are now being utilized around the country. You can help them by sharing what you know about local usage in your area and by asking other users -- both individuals and groups -- to do the same. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-uhf-microwave-band-plan-committee-seeks-input-on-6-and-3-centimeter-bands>.

==> ARRL INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award close December 31, 2012. This award is conferred upon an amateur or amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established the annual prize to recognize those radio amateurs who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster.

As one of the few telecommunication services that allow people throughout the world from all walks of life to meet and talk with each other, Amateur Radio spreads goodwill across political boundaries. The ARRL International Humanitarian Award recognizes the Amateur Radio Service's unique role in international communication and the assistance amateurs regularly provide to people in need. Read more here

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-invites-nominations-for-2012-international-humanitarian-award>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: Solar activity declined again this week, with the average daily sunspot numbers dropping 17.8 points, from 78.9 to 61.1, while the average daily solar flux declined 19.4 points, from 121 to 101.6. The latest prediction from NOAA/USAF has the solar flux at 105 and 110 on December 6-7, 115 on December 8-9, 120, 125 and 130 on December 10-12, 135 on December 13-17, then 130, 125 and 120 on December 18-20, 115 on December 21-23, and back down to 110 on December 24-27. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on December 6-13, 8 on December 14-15, 5 on December 16-28, and rising to 8 on December 29-30. Look for more on the ARRL website on Friday, December 7. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> + ARRL RECOGNIZES: ROBERT BASTONE, WC3O, WINS NOVEMBER QST COVER PLAQUE AWARD

The winner of the November QST Cover Plaque award is Robert Bastone, WC3O, for his article "A Different Way to Assemble PL-259 Coax Plugs <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201211/index.php?startid=34>." Congratulations Robert! The QST Cover Plaque Award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll web page <http://www.arrl.org/cover-plaque-poll>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the December issue today.

==> + RAC ANNOUNCES NEW INCOMING QSL BUREAU ADDRESS

Effective immediately, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC <http://www.rac.ca/>) has instituted a new, centralized address for its Incoming QSL Bureau: RAC National Incoming QSL Bureau, Box 51, Saint John, NB E2L 3X1, Canada. RAC International Affairs Officer George Gorsline, VE3YV, told the ARRL that hams should no longer send any cards through the provincial QSL bureaus. Please direct any questions regarding this new policy to Gorsline via e-mail <ve3yv@rac.ca>.

==> + NEW QUICKSTATS POLL NOW AVAILABLE ON ARRL WEBSITE

Four new poll questions have just been published on the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> on the ARRL website. Let your voice be heard!

Questions in this month's QuickStats poll:

- What is your outlook for Amateur Radio in 2013?
- How do you feel about a possible low frequency allocation <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-seeks-to-assign-entire-amateur-portion-of-160-meter-band-to-primary-status-to-amateur-radio-serv>

for US amateurs?
- Have you added the new digital QST app
<http://www.arrl.org/news/em-qst-em-there-s-an-app-for-that> to your
iPad, iPhone or iPod touch?
- Is your call sign on prominent display at your home station?

Visit the QuickStats page <http://www.arrl.org/quickstats> and be sure
to bookmark it in your browser. Results from this QuickStats poll will
be published in the March 2013 issue of QST on the QuickStats page,
located in the rear advertising section of the magazine. Along with
monthly poll results, QST QuickStats offers colorful charts and graphs
that highlight interesting Amateur Radio statistics.

==> THIS WEEK IN RADIOSPORT

This week:

- December 7 -- NCCC Sprint
- December 8-9 -- ARRL 10 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>;
International Naval Contest
- December 9 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon; CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe
Run
- December 12 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint; NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- December 12-13 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

Next week:

- December 14 -- NCCC Sprint; Russian 160 Meter Contest
- December 15 -- OK DX RTTY Contest; Feld Hall Sprint
- December 15-16 -- Croatian CW Contest
- December 16 -- ARRL Rookie Roundup (CW)
<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>; QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew
Sprint
- December 17 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest
Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update
<http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest
Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more
information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out
the ARRL Special Event Stations web page
<http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-
1>,
Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma;
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO
Parties.

Subscribe to QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters
<http://www.arrl.org/qex>. Published bi-monthly, features technical
articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to
radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members: Subscribe
<http://www.arrl.org/myarrl-account-management#!/edit-info-email_subscription

s>
to the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Contest Update (bi-weekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ARRL.org>. Follow us on Twitter <http://twitter.com/arrl>.

ARRL offers a wide array of products <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-store> to enhance your enjoyment of Amateur Radio.

Donate <https://www.arrl.org/arrl-donation-form> to the fund of your choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!

Click here <ads@arrl.org> to advertise in this newsletter (subject to space availability).

The ARRL Letter is published Thursdays, 50 times each year. ARRL members and registered guests may subscribe at no cost or unsubscribe by editing their profile <http://www.arrl.org/Users/edit#!/edit-info-email_subscriptions>.

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<http://www.arrl.org/>

299. Re: FM broadcast transmitters (was FCC Daily Digest 12/06/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-08 18:42:27 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <ka00h4$1o4$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 68

On 12/6/2012 12:14 PM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:
> (Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)
>
> Daily Digest
>
> Vol. 31 No. 233 December 0
> 6, 2012
>
>
> [...]
>
> GLEN RUBASH. Notified Glen Rubash of an apparent liability for forfeitur
> e in the amount of $10,000 for operation of an unlicensed radio station. Ac
> tion by: District Director, Kansas City Office, South Central Region, Enfo
> rcement Bureau. Adopted: 12/05/2012 by NAL. (DA No. 12-1948). EB http://
> hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.doc
> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.pdf
> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.txt

This kind of news scares me: it seems to be singling out a ham for
things that others get away with all the time.

Real estate agents are using "Talking house" FM transmitters all over
the country, and many of them don't meet Part 15 power limits.

Those whom want to play portable MP3 players through their car stereo
employ FM transmitters, which sometimes interfere with other drivers
whom are trying to receive a legitimate station on the same channel.

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

300. Re: FM broadcast transmitters (was FCC Daily Digest 12/06/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-08 21:58:55 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <50c3a728$0$69679$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 69

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <ka00h4$1o4$1@dont-email.me> Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> writes:
>
>On 12/6/2012 12:14 PM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:
>> (Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)
>>
>> Daily Digest
>>
>> Vol. 31 No. 233 December 0
>> 6, 2012
>>
>>
>> [...]
>>
>> GLEN RUBASH. Notified Glen Rubash of an apparent liability for forfeitur
>> e in the amount of $10,000 for operation of an unlicensed radio station. Ac
>> tion by: District Director, Kansas City Office, South Central Region, Enfo
>> rcement Bureau. Adopted: 12/05/2012 by NAL. (DA No. 12-1948). EB http://
>> hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.doc
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.pdf
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.txt

>This kind of news scares me: it seems to be singling out a ham for
>things that others get away with all the time.

>Real estate agents are using "Talking house" FM transmitters all over
>the country, and many of them don't meet Part 15 power limits.

>Those whom want to play portable MP3 players through their car stereo
>employ FM transmitters, which sometimes interfere with other drivers
>whom are trying to receive a legitimate station on the same channel.

>Bill, W1AC

>--
>Bill Horne
>(Remove QRM from my address to write to me directly)

Reading the Notice of Apparent Liability, it appears that the FCC viewed
this as much more serious, and fineable, because of at least two
significant points:

- The operator of the equipment refused to relinquish the equipment,
demonstrating a lack of cooperation with the authorities, and a
likely intention to keep transmitting at this or another location.
```

(Whether the government's request to relinquish was an attempt to secure cooperation for lesser or no punishment, or was just a thinly-veiled exercise to determine who owned the equipment, is left as an exercise for the reader.)

- The operator of the equipment held an FCC license in another service (Amateur Extra), so should have known better, and should be held to a higher standard than an unlicensed layman. The transmitter is not described in detail here, but Part-15 compliant transmitters usually don't have a separate external antenna.

More often than not, these unlicensed stations come to the attention of the FCC due to interference with other stations, such as broadcast or aviation. Most wireless transmitters that are Part-15 certified that I am aware of usually have a coverage pattern no bigger than the size of an average suburban house lot. Someone using unmodified equipment that had a Part-15 certification sticker on it would likely not be held liable by the FCC for monetary forfeiture. Someone using homebrew or modified equipment, even "willfully" (see footnote 5), might be given a pass by the FCC if they demonstrated serious intention to cease and desist once they were informed that they were likely breaking the law. Losing equipment to forfeiture or "voluntary" destruction, probably the only ways to convince the FCC of your intention to cease and desist, is unfortunate, but less unfortunate than a five-figure fine.

Mr. Rubash can still administratively appeal. Even if his legal culpability is not reduced, he can have the fine reduced, such as by demonstrating financial hardship.

IANAL, so your mileage may vary.

(73, Paul, K3FU)

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlDDpncACgkQ6Pj0az779o56VQCdFsKIZNfdbOKcODKS8uLfZnVj
ZAwAnR+tEFS5J/N7UBffL31zEmH0k5fJ
=y1jB
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

301. Re: FM broadcast transmitters (was FCC Daily Digest 12/06/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-10 00:05:14 UTC
From: Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net>
Message-ID: <ka0liu$5h6$2@dont-email.me>
Source record: 70

On 12/8/2012 1:42 PM, Bill Horne wrote:
> On 12/6/2012 12:14 PM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:
>> (Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown
>> below.)
>>
>> Daily Digest
>>
>> Vol. 31 No. 233
>> December 0
>> 6, 2012
>>
>>
>> [...]
>>
>> GLEN RUBASH. Notified Glen Rubash of an apparent liability for
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>> station. Ac
>> tion by: District Director, Kansas City Office, South Central Region,
>> Enfo
>> rcement Bureau. Adopted: 12/05/2012 by NAL. (DA No. 12-1948). EB
>> http://
>> hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.doc
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.pdf
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.txt
>
> This kind of news scares me: it seems to be singling out a ham for
> things that others get away with all the time.
>
> Real estate agents are using "Talking house" FM transmitters all over
> the country, and many of them don't meet Part 15 power limits.
>

I've seen several of these, and ALL of them meet Part 15 power limits.
Remember - Part 15 doesn't mean it can't be heard.

Why do you think they don't meet Part 15 power limits?

> Those whom want to play portable MP3 players through their car stereo
> employ FM transmitters, which sometimes interfere with other drivers
> whom are trying to receive a legitimate station on the same channel.
>
> Bill, W1AC
>
>

>

Again, that doesn't mean the transmitter doesn't meet Part 15 limits.

--
==========
Remove the "x" from my email address
Jerry, AI0K
jstucklex@attglobal.net
==========

302. 30 Years Ago: Error-Correcting Data Modes and Unattended HF Forwarding STA

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-10 00:05:23 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <50c3b3c5$0$69683$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 71
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

This is from a web-site that is replaying Usenet, including
net.ham-radio, from 30 years ago (currently late 1982). The site is:

http://www.olduse.net

If you prefer to use your own newsreader, the site also supports an NNTP
connection at:

nntp.olduse.net:119

>From: ad7i <utzoo!decvax!harpo!ihnp4!ihps3!houxz!houxi!houxp!ad7i>
>Subject: AD7I AMTOR Report to the FCC (long)
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Mon Dec 6 11:13:54 1982

ad7i msg 26: A report that i submitted to the FCC on a HF RTTY
error correcting protocol follows.
- -------

Thirty Victoria Place
Red Bank, N.J. 07701
201-949-3731 (W)
201-741-1151 (H)
November 23, 1982

Mr. Richard H. Everett
Chief, Licensing Division
Federal Communications Commission
Gettysburg, P.A. 17325

Dear Mr. Everett:

Enclosed is the report required by the S.T.A. outlined in your letter
of May 3, 1982. If I can provide any additional information, please do not
hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Paul Newland
Copy (with att.) to
Vic Clark, W4KFC
Phil Karn, KA9Q
Bill Meyn, K4PA

Dave Sumner, K1ZZ
Curtis Williams, W5DTR
netnews

November 23, 1982

REPORT TO THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION ON EXPERIMENTS CONDUCTED BY PAUL NEWLAND AT AMATEUR RADIO STATION AD7I USING THE ERROR CORRECTING PROTOCOL DESCRIBED BY CCIR RECOMMENDATION 476-2

ABSTRACT

This report outlines the use of the teleprinter code described by CCIR Recommendation 476-2, also know as AMTOR, by amateur radio station AD7I. Use of this code during the period provided by Special Temporary Authorization (S.T.A.), file 7130, was hampered by external influences. No "scientific" data were collected but outstanding performance provided by the CCIR 476-2 coding was observed by the operator on numerous occasions. The report concludes with a recommendation that use of CCIR 476-2 coding by U.S.A. radio amateurs be allowed as soon as possible.

DISCUSSION

This report describes use of the error correcting protocol described by CCIR Recommendation 476-2 at my amateur radio station, AD7I, during the period of May 1982 to November 1982. During much of the experimental period, the High Frequency (HF) station was inoperative because of radio problems. Additionally, I was required by business commitments to make several unexpected and lengthy trips during the fall. Consequently, time did not permit scientific data, per se, to be collected for presentation. However, I have formed strong opinions about the usefulness of this mode of communications based on my use.

In May of this year I completed construction of a microprocessor system to convert the CCIR 476-2 signals to international telex teleprinter code. The firmware to accomplish this code conversion was provided by Mr. Peter Martinez, G3PLX; I designed the controller to be software compatible with Mr. Martinez's firmware. An additional microprocessor system was designed and built by me using a different manufacturer's microprocessor. I programmed this second microprocessor to convert CCIR 476-2 Mode B to international telex teleprinter code. I also purchased a new HF-SSB radio to perform experiments with CCIR 476-2 coding. All other equipment was previously on hand.

After completing the controllers, U.S. Coast Guard and Canadian Coast Guard weather broadcasts were monitored to observe the print quality of Forward Error Correction (FEC) mode B communications during normal HF propagation conditions. In my opinion, without scientific data to back my

claim, I feel that the FEC mode of operation for broadcast use is superior to that of conventional stop-start unprotected teleprinter transmissions (RTTY). A major advantage of CCIR 476-2 coding in FEC mode is that detected errors are converted to space characters by the code converter. Hence, errors are easily and quickly spotted by the operator so fills can be made from context.

On June 1, 1982, I advised the Commission's field office that on or after June 11, 1982, station AD7I would begin transmissions using CCIR 476-2. On June 13, 1982, contact was established with station TI3DJT using the Automatic ReQuest for repeat (ARQ) mode A. From June 13 to 29, 1982, 39 contacts were made with radio amateurs around the world using CCIR 476-2 coding. Most of the contacts were made with ARQ mode A; only several contacts were made using FEC mode B. All contacts took place on or near 14.075 MHz. Stations with which communications took place were: TI3DJT, PA0RYS, HB9AUK, HB9AK, K4PA, G3PLX, A4XFW, G3RYS, KB6BT, KC7KK, and TI2CC. On June 30, 1982, the station's radio was returned to the manufacturer for repair under warranty. The synthesizer provided unreliable operation after the radio had been on for several hours.

On September 28, 1982, the radio was returned in good working order. >From September 28, 1982, to November 14, 1982, another 31 contacts were made. In my opinion, again without scientific data to back my claim, performance using CCIR 476-2 ARQ coding is VASTLY superior to conventional RTTY coding. CCIR 476-2 displays an amazing robustness during conditions of propagation that render SSB and CW modes of communications virtually useless. I apologize for not having scientific data to back my claims; I am sure that the data would substantiate my opinions. CCIR 476-2 consistently provided communications during short and long duration frequency selective fading, during SSB and CW co-channel and adjacent channel interference, and during conventional Radio Teleprinter (RTTY) interference. The only interference to which CCIR 476-2 is not immune, as one might expect, is another co-channel CCIR 476-2 station. Such stations did not present much of a problem during the test period. However, it is important to note that there were few stations available to cause inadvertent or deliberate interference.

IMPLEMENTATION

CCIR 476-2 proves to be a simple addition to an amateur radio HF RTTY station. Figure 1 shows how the system components were configured at station AD7I. The cost of the CCIR 476-2 code converter was about $40.00 due to a well-stocked junk box. If all components for the controller were purchased new and the firmware was free, the cost for a code converter should still be well under $85.00. This is a small amount of money compared to other system components. Vast sums should not be required to implement a CCIR 476-2 code converter.

CONCLUSION

The performance provided by CCIR 476-2 coding is superior to conventional coding, and the incremental cost to add that capability to an amateur radio RTTY station is low. I therefore recommend that the Federal Communications Commission allow, as soon as possible, the use of CCIR 476-2 coding by radio amateurs who now have RTTY privileges.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Newland, licensee of
Amateur Radio Station, ad7i

>From: ad7i <utzoo!decvax!duke!harpo!zeppo!whuxk!houxm!houxa!houxi!houxp!ad7i>
>Subject: letter to QEX about HF STAs (long)
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Wed Dec 8 11:32:20 1982

POB 205
Holmdel, N.J. 07733
201-949-3731 (W)
201-741-1151 (H)
November 23, 1982

Mr. Paul Rinaldo, W4RI
Editor,
_Q_E_X: The ARRL
Experimenters' Exchange
1524 Springvale Avenue
McLean, V.A. 22101

Dear Paul:

In the spring of this year at the packet radio meeting held in Murray Hill, you and I discussed some of the regulatory problems facing the development of a high frequency data network. One key problem was the legality of running a H.F. packet station in unattended mode, where unattended implies operation of a radio without a control operator present during transmissions. Without releasing amateurs from the requirement that all H.F. transmissions must be supervised by an operator, automated H.F. networks are impossible to achieve.

On July 7, 1982, I made a request of the F.C.C. to allow operation of my station, using the error correcting teleprinter code know as AMTOR, without a control operator being present. I was delighted on November 19, 1982, with a positive response from the F.C.C. Although not everything I requested was allowed, I was pleased to find that I got more than I thought I would. I can now run unattended on H.F. with AMTOR.

I encourage everyone involved with the establishment of automated data networks using H.F. to seek waivers of the rules, as required, to permit the rapid and continual growth of this technology. Amateur Radio is progressing!

73,

Paul Newland, ad7i
Copy (with att.) to
Vic Clark, W4KFC
Phil Karn, KA9Q
Bill Meyn, K4PA
Dave Sumner, K1ZZ
Curtis Williams, W5DTR
netnews

[i haven't included the attachment (the FCC STA) but if someone
would like to see it or the original request that I prepared for
the commisssion, drop me a note and i'll forward you a copy -- pbn]

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlDDs4sACgkQ6Pj0az779o5IoACfaYOyys6zNEF/ycICAq0IxqBj
8c8AoMQ4rITSs/9JoL04wPIJPLaT3duZ
=FnIQ
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

303. Re: FM broadcast transmitters (was FCC Daily Digest 12/06/2012)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-10 00:05:30 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <richard@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <c8l9c8930qte4k3191qea8kqt9kc0r4bpm@4ax.com>
Source record: 72

On Sat, 8 Dec 2012 13:42:27 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> wrote:

>On 12/6/2012 12:14 PM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:
>> (Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)
>>
>> Daily Digest
>>
>> Vol. 31 No. 233 December 0
>> 6, 2012
>>
>>
>> [...]
>>
>> GLEN RUBASH. Notified Glen Rubash of an apparent liability for forfeitur
>> e in the amount of $10,000 for operation of an unlicensed radio station. Ac
>> tion by: District Director, Kansas City Office, South Central Region, Enfo
>> rcement Bureau. Adopted: 12/05/2012 by NAL. (DA No. 12-1948). EB http://
>> hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.doc
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.pdf
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-1948A1.txt
>
>This kind of news scares me: it seems to be singling out a ham for
>things that others get away with all the time.
>
>Real estate agents are using "Talking house" FM transmitters all over
>the country, and many of them don't meet Part 15 power limits.
>
>Those whom want to play portable MP3 players through their car stereo
>employ FM transmitters, which sometimes interfere with other drivers
>whom are trying to receive a legitimate station on the same channel.
>
>Bill, W1AC

The FCC Notice says: "The agents determined that the signals on 88.3
MHz exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 of the
Commissioni¿½s rules (Rules), and therefore required a license."

It is possible that the FCC dealt with him more harshly that the
average citizen beause he was a licensed ham. IMHO, they should!

Those portable MP3 players (and in my case, my aftermarket Sirius/XM
radio) which play through the car's FM receiver most likely are
meeting the FCC Part 15 limit. Unlicensed Part 15 operation does not
guarantee that the device will not interfere with others. It is
expected that some minor interference might occur occasionally.

A weather station intended for use in a back yard transmits to the in-house console via a frequency of 435 MHz, in our 70 CM ham band. A few years ago, I emailed the regulatory expert at ARRL about this. He responded that it was legal under Part 15 rules.

In the case of Glen Rubash, in order to have an audience of more than his closest neighbor, he would have to be transmitting more than the Part 15 limit.

Dick Grady, AC7EL

304. FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-12 17:42:53 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-525191-2012.12.12-12.00.52--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 73
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)
Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 237 December 1
2, 2012

[...]

JOAQUIM BARBOSA. Issued a monetary forfeiture in the amount of $16,000 t
o Joaquim Barbosa for operating radio transmitting equipment on an unauthor
ized frequency in violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act. Actio
n by: Regional Director, Northeast Region, Enforcement Bureau. Adopted: 1
2/11/2012 by Forfeiture Order. (DA No. 12-2008). EB http://hraunfoss.fcc.
gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.txt

[...]

305. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-13 13:10:43 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <kack4ddvd1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 74

On 12/12/2012 12:42 PM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:

> JOAQUIM BARBOSA. Issued a monetary forfeiture in the amount of $16,000 t
> o Joaquim Barbosa for operating radio transmitting equipment on an unauthor
> ized frequency in violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act. Actio
> n by: Regional Director, Northeast Region, Enforcement Bureau. Adopted: 1
> 2/11/2012 by Forfeiture Order. (DA No. 12-2008). EB http://hraunfoss.fcc.
> gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.doc
> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.pdf
> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.txt

This notice of forfeiture raises two questions:

First, what is on 296.550 MHz? Mr. Barbosa was fined for using a frequency that's nowhere near any ham band that I know of, so I wonder what would make someone want to use that frequency.

Second, what else is in that band? I know government aircraft are down around 243 MHz, which is the emergency channel for government use (it's the second harmonic of 121.5 MHz, the civilian aircraft distress frequency), but the rest of the ~230 MHz to ~416 MHz band is a mystery to me.

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne

306. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-13 16:05:11 UTC
From: Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net>
Message-ID: <kacm36opq1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 75

On 12/13/2012 8:10 AM, Bill Horne wrote:
> On 12/12/2012 12:42 PM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:
>
>> JOAQUIM BARBOSA. Issued a monetary forfeiture in the amount of
>> $16,000 t
>> o Joaquim Barbosa for operating radio transmitting equipment on an
>> unauthor
>> ized frequency in violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act.
>> Actio
>> n by: Regional Director, Northeast Region, Enforcement Bureau.
>> Adopted: 1
>> 2/11/2012 by Forfeiture Order. (DA No. 12-2008). EB
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.
>> gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.doc
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.pdf
>> http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2008A1.txt
>
> This notice of forfeiture raises two questions:
>
> First, what is on 296.550 MHz? Mr. Barbosa was fined for using a
> frequency that's nowhere near any ham band that I know of, so I wonder
> what would make someone want to use that frequency.
>
> Second, what else is in that band? I know government aircraft are down
> around 243 MHz, which is the emergency channel for government use (it's
> the second harmonic of 121.5 MHz, the civilian aircraft distress
> frequency), but the rest of the ~230 MHz to ~416 MHz band is a mystery
> to me.
>
> Bill, W1AC
>

It's all spelled out in the order.

--
==========
Remove the "x" from my email address
Jerry Stuckle
JDS Computer Training Corp.
jstucklex@attglobal.net
==========

307. FCC Daily Digest 12/13/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-13 17:26:34 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-525210-2012.12.13-11.48.07--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 76
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)
Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 238 December 1
3, 2012
* * * * *

[...]

AMENDMENT OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES WITH REGARD TO COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS I
N THE 3550-3650 MHZ BAND. The Federal Communications Commission proposed
to make available 100 megahertz of shared spectrum in the 3.5 GHz Band (355
0-3650 MHz) using small cell and database technologies. (Dkt No. 12-354).
Action by: the Commission. Comments Due: 02/20/2013. Reply Comments Due:
03/22/2013. Adopted: 12/12/2012 by NPRM. (FCC No. 12-148). WTB OET htt
p://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A1.docx
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A2.docx
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A3.docx
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A4.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A5.docx
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A6.docx
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A3.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A4.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A5.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A6.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A2.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A3.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A4.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A5.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-148A6.txt

[...]

308. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-13 19:54:11 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <kadbou$6qi$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 77

On 12/13/2012 11:05 AM, Jerry Stuckle wrote:
> On 12/13/2012 8:10 AM, Bill Horne wrote:
>> On 12/12/2012 12:42 PM, noreply@info.fcc.gov wrote:
>>
>>> JOAQUIM BARBOSA. Issued a monetary forfeiture in the amount of
>>> $16,000 t
>>> o Joaquim Barbosa for operating radio transmitting equipment on an
>>> unauthor
>>> ized frequency in violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act.
>>
>>
>> First, what is on 296.550 MHz? Mr. Barbosa was fined for using a
>> frequency that's nowhere near any ham band that I know of, so I wonder
>> what would make someone want to use that frequency.
>>
>> Second, what else is in that band? I know government aircraft are down
>> around 243 MHz, which is the emergency channel for government use (it's
>> the second harmonic of 121.5 MHz, the civilian aircraft distress
>> frequency), but the rest of the ~230 MHz to ~416 MHz band is a mystery
>> to me.
>
> It's all spelled out in the order.

The online document mentions only an "authorized US Government user" on
296.550 MHz, and there is no description of what the frequency is
usually used for.

There is also no information in the order about the other user(s) or
service(s) that occupy the band I mentioned.

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne

309. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-14 02:49:30 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@kanafi.org>
Message-ID: <2inkc8l5rj26ds0vo8gjatkvhr3n9p7fuf@4ax.com>
Source record: 78

On Thu, 13 Dec 2012 14:54:11 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
wrote:

>The online document mentions only an "authorized US Government user" on
>296.550 MHz, and there is no description of what the frequency is
>usually used for.

That's all the information that will be released publicly. The
military is even more secretive about their spectrum usage than they
were when I was liaison to them for things like that.

>There is also no information in the order about the other user(s) or
>service(s) that occupy the band I mentioned.

There are no other users/services that occupy that band.

I thought that all radio geeks (err...hams) knew that.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

310. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-14 02:49:41 UTC
From: Bert <bert@iphouse.com>
Message-ID: <XnsA128B5B9C6ED1VeebleFetzer@88.198.244.100>
Source record: 79

In news:kadbou$6qi$1@dont-email.me Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> wrote:

> There is also no information in the order about the other user(s) or
> service(s) that occupy the band I mentioned.

Other than stating the fact that he's not authorized to use it, there's
no real reason to list every valid user.

Barbarosa's reason for using it is funny though:

Mr. Barbosa explains that his authority is not based on his
status as an amateur licensee (which he readily acknowledges
does not authorize him to operate on the U.S. government
frequency), but based on the authority vested in him by a
Brazilian man, who is authorized to operate the radio equipment
using the frequency 296.550 MHz in Brazil.

--
Bert Hyman W0RSB St. Paul, MN bert@iphouse.com

311. The ARRL Letter for December 13, 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-14 03:34:40 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121213212303.142D12725F@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 80
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

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*****************************************
The ARRL Letter

Published by the American Radio Relay League
*****************************************

December 13, 2012

Editor: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA <k1sfa@arrl.org>

ARRL Home Page <http://www.arrl.org/>ARRL Letter Archive
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>Audio News
<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> IN THIS ISSUE

- + FCC News: ARRL Files Petition for Rulemaking with FCC to Create New
MF Band at 472-479 kHz
- + FCC News: FCC Reduces New Jersey Ham's Forfeiture from $20,000 to
$16,000
- + International: IARU Welcomes Two New Member Societies
- + Logbook of The World Web Page Now Features Daily and Hourly Status
Updates
- + Catch the Geminids and Chat with NASA's Meteor Experts
- The Yasme Foundation Announces 2012 Yasme Excellence Award Recipients
and Supporting Grants
- ARRL Invites Nominations for 2012 International Humanitarian Award
- Solar Update
- + ARRL Headquarters to Close for Christmas, New Year's Holidays
- Upcoming ARRL Section, State and Division Conventions and Events

+ Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news>.

This is the last ARRL Letter and ARRL Audio News for 2012. Both the
ARRL Letter and ARRL Audio News will resume Thursday, January 10, 2013.
Thanks for reading The ARRL Letter each week -- we'll see you next
year!

==> + FCC NEWS: ARRL FILES PETITION FOR RULEMAKING WITH FCC TO CREATE
NEW MF BAND AT 472-479 KHZ

<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/spectrum_wall_chart_aug2011.
pdf>
At the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12), delegates
approved a means of satisfying Agenda Item 1.23: a 7-kilohertz-wide
secondary allocation between 472-479 kHz for the Amateur Radio Service,
with a power limit of 5 W EIRP (or 1 W EIRP, depending on location).
Before this portion of spectrum is made available to radio amateurs in
```

the US, the FCC must first approve its use and amend its rules to reflect the change. As such, the ARRL filed a Petition for Rulemaking on November 29, asking the FCC to amend Parts 2 and 97 of its rules and create a domestic Amateur Radio allocation at 472-479 kHz, conforming to the allocation status and limitations set forth in the international Radio Regulations. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-files-petition-for-rulemaking-with-fcc-to-crea te-new-mf-band-at-472-479-khz>.

==> + FCC NEWS: FCC REDUCES NEW JERSEY HAM'S FORFEITURE FROM $20,000 TO $16,000

After unsuccessfully appealing to the FCC to cancel his $20,000 forfeiture, Joaquim Barbosa, N2KBJ, of Elizabeth, New Jersey must pay $16,000 for "willfully and repeatedly violating Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by operating a radio transmitting equipment on the frequency 296.550 MHz without Commission authorization."

The FCC noted in the Forfeiture Order that based on the examination process involved in pursuing an amateur license, "amateur licensees are expected to have an understanding of radio operations and pertinent FCC regulations, including Part 97 of the FCC's rules governing the Amateur Radio Service. Licensed amateur operators know that they are authorized to operate only on the frequencies listed in Section 97.301 of the rules, as designated by their operator class and license. Pursuant to the Table of Allocations, the 267-322 MHz band -- the band that Barbosa was operating in -- is allocated solely for federal government use, which we continue to believe Barbosa knew (or should have known) was not authorized for non-government use." Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-finds-new-jersey-ham-violated-communication-act -reduces-forfeiture-from-20-000-to-16-000>.

==> + INTERNATIONAL: IARU WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBER SOCIETIES

Earlier this year, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) notified its Member Societies that two new national Amateur Radio organizations wished to join the IARU and would need to be voted in: the Federation of Radio Sport of Azerbaijan (FRSA) and the St Vincent and Grenadines Amateur Radio Club (SVGARC). Ballots from all the Member Societies that responded were counted on November 1 and adopted.

Based in Baku, Azerbaijan, the FRSA was formally organized on December 30, 2001. There are 50 licensed members of the FRSA out of a total amateur population of approximately 50 in Azerbaijan. The SVGARC is based in St Vincent, St Vincent and the Grenadines and was formally organized in 1951. There are 21 licensed members of the SVGARC, out of a total amateur population of approximately 134 in the country. Both organizations have confirmed to the IARU that they have the ability to meet financial obligations as members of the IARU, are legally able to act in the furtherance of IARU objectives within their respective countries and will adhere to the Constitutions of both the IARU and its

respective Regional Organization. Read more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/iaru-welcomes-two-new-member-societies-sets-new-gui
delines-for-election-of-president-and-vice-presid>.

==> + LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD WEB PAGE NOW FEATURES DAILY AND HOURLY
STATUS UPDATES

The ARRL has created a new informational page
<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world> to issue daily status
updates and information of interest to the Logbook of The World (LoTW
<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world>) user community. These
updates will include planned downtime and changes that will impact LoTW
operations. In addition, LoTW's processing queue is now updated hourly
<http://www.arrl.org/logbook-queue-status>, telling how many logs and
QSOs have been uploaded to the LoTW system and are awaiting processing.
New hardware that will improve LoTW's throughput is on order and is
expected to be running in six to eight weeks.

Rick Murphy, K1MU, and Dave Bernstein, AA6YQ, have been charged with
rebooting the Trusted QSL open source project. If you have demonstrably
strong C++ development skills that you're interested in applying toward
improving LoTW's usability and efficiency, please contact Bernstein via
e-mail aa6yq(at)ambersoft(dot)com.

We appreciate the user community's patience while we work to bring
LoTW's performance to an acceptable level.

==> + CATCH THE GEMINIDS AND CHAT WITH NASA'S METEOR EXPERTS

The annual Geminids meteor shower, scheduled to reach its peak on
December 13 and 14, is slated to be the most intense shower of the
entire year. This is also prime time for amateurs who enjoy bouncing
their VHF signals off the ionized trails of these space rocks as they
streak into our atmosphere. Known as meteor scatter, this communication
technique takes advantage of temporary radio pathways that can span
nearly 2000 miles. The week of December 10-16 is a good window for
Geminid watching, but the night of Thursday, December 13 is the
anticipated peak of the shower.

On Thursday, December 13 from 11 PM-3 AM EST (0400-0800 UTC December
14), meteor experts from NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center will be
available to answer questions via a late night web chat. NASA will also
provide a live Ustream feed of the Geminid shower via a camera mounted
at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Before
the camera activates, viewers will see either pre-recorded footage or a
blank box. The camera is light activated and will turn on at dusk. Read
more here
<http://www.arrl.org/news/catch-the-geminids-and-chat-with-nasa-meteor-expert
s>.

==> THE YASME FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2012 YASME EXCELLENCE AWARD
RECIPIENTS AND SUPPORTING GRANTS

The Yasme Excellence Awards <http://www.yasme.org/excellence.html> are given to individuals who through their own service, creativity, effort and dedication, have made a significant contribution to Amateur Radio. Their contribution may be in recognition of technical, operating or organizational achievement. The Yasme Excellence Award is in the form of a cash grant and an engraved crystal globe.

The Yasme Foundation <http://www.yasme.org/> has recognized the following individuals "in order to inspire them and others on behalf of Amateur Radio now and in the future."

- George Fremin, K5TR; Tree Tyree, N6TR; Trey Garlough, N5KO, and Scott Neader, KA9FOX, for their contributions to many infrastructure projects that benefit the ham community at large.
- ARRL Education and Technology Program Director Mark Spencer, WA8SME, for his instrumental work in the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology <http://www.arrl.org/teachers-institute-on-wireless-technology> and other training efforts, development of PIC microcontroller projects and books for amateurs, as well as working with leaders in student and scientific teams in applying Amateur Radio to scientific projects and experiments.
- Champ Muangamphun, E21EIC, and Pornchai Semjang, HS2JFW, for leadership in Thailand's amateur community, especially during the recent flooding which helped open the door to the new Thai HF licensing and the enhanced stature of Amateur Radio with the Thai government.
- Former NCJ <http://www.arrl.org/ncj> Editor Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, and Tomas Hood, NW7US, for their sustained education of the amateur community regarding propagation, solar and geomagnetic physics.
- David Freese, W1HKJ, for creating and maintaining the freeware software package Fldigi <http://www.w1hkj.com/Fldigi.html>, probably the most widely used digital communication software in ham radio and a frequent gateway for new hams who are more familiar with computer-based communications.
- Former ARRL Assistant Technical Editor Dean Straw, N6BV, for his contributions to amateur antenna system design and the development of software tools, such as HFTA to optimize system design.
- Peter Martinez, G3PLX, and Pawel Jalocha, SP9VRC, for the development of PSK31 <http://www.arrl.org/psk31-has-rtty-s-replacement-arrived>, a widely used digital mode entirely invented by amateurs that is enabling many amateurs to successfully use HF with very modest stations.
- Arie Kleingeld, PA3A; Ad Van Ginneken, PA8AD, and Arie Noordzij, PA3AN, for their sustained contributions to the Mercy Ships Project <http://www.mercyships.org/>.

The Board of Directors also announces supporting grants to the following projects: WRTC 2014 <http://www.wrtc2014.org/>, the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF <http://www.wwrof.org/>), Club Log <http://www.clublog.org/>, the NCDXF Beacon Project <http://www.ncdxf.org/>, Yasme scholarships (administered by the ARRL) and the Amateur Radio Association of Kosovo (SHARK).

The Yasme Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to Amateur Radio, including DXing and the introduction and promotion of Amateur Radio in developing countries.

==> ARRL INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations for the 2012 ARRL International Humanitarian Award close December 31, 2012. This award is conferred upon an amateur or amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established the annual prize to recognize those radio amateurs who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster.

As one of the few telecommunication services that allow people throughout the world from all walks of life to meet and talk with each other, Amateur Radio spreads goodwill across political boundaries. The ARRL International Humanitarian Award recognizes the Amateur Radio Service's unique role in international communication and the assistance amateurs regularly provide to people in need. Read more here <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-invites-nominations-for-2012-international-humanitarian-award-1>.

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad Cook, K7RA, reports: The average daily sunspot numbers fell 13.5 points this week, from 61.1 to 47.6, while the average daily solar flux was about the same this week as last, rising 1.1 points to 102.7. The geomagnetic indices were even quieter this week than last week. The predicted solar flux is 110 on December 13, 115 on December 14, 120 on December 15-17, 115 on December 18, 110 on December 19-20, 115 on December 21-23, 110 on December 24-27, 100 on December 28-29, 95 on December 30-January 3, 100 on January 4-5, and rising to 105 on January 6-8. The predicted planetary A index is 8 on December 13, 5 on December 14-15, 10 on December 16-17, 5 on December 18-28, 8 on December 29, 5 on December 30-January 5, 7 on January 6-7, 5 on January 8-9, and rising again to 8 on January 10-11. Look for more on the ARRL website -- including reports from last weekend's ARRL 10 Meter Contest <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>, updated forecasts and a some minor revisions from both NASA and NOAA to the latest predictions for the peak of Solar Cycle 24 -- on Friday, December 14. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>.

==> + ARRL HEADQUARTERS TO CLOSE FOR CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS

ARRL Headquarters will be closed Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25, 2012 in observance of Christmas, and Tuesday, January 1, 2013 in observance of New Year's Day. There will be no W1AW bulletins or code practice transmissions <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> those days. There will be no ARRL Letter <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/> or ARRL Audio News

<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-audio-news> on Thursday, December 20 and 27, 2012 and January 3, 2013; both the Letter and Audio News will return on January 10, 2013. We wish everyone a safe and joyful holiday season and a prosperous 2013.

This Week in Radiosport

This week:

- December 14 -- NCCC Sprint; Russian 160 Meter Contest
- December 15 -- OK DX RTTY Contest; Feld Hall Sprint
- December 15-16 -- Croatian CW Contest
- December 16 -- ARRL Rookie Roundup (CW) <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>; QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint
- December 17 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

Through January 11, 2013:

- December 21 -- NCCC Sprint; AGB Party-Contest
- December 22-January 1 -- Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party
- December 23 -- RAEM Contest
- December 26 -- SKCC Sprint; DARC Christmas Contest
- December 27 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
- December 28 -- NCCC Sprint
- December 29 -- RAC Winter Contest
- December 29-30 -- Stew Perry Topband Challenge
- January 1 -- ARRL Straight Key Night <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>; SARTG New Year RTTY Contest; AGCW Happy New Year Contest
- January 4 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- January 5 -- PODXS 070 Club PSKFest
- January 5-6 -- ARRL RTTY Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>; EUCW 160 Meter Contest
- January 11 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

==> UPCOMING ARRL SECTION, STATE AND DIVISION CONVENTIONS AND EVENTS

- January 6 -- ARRL New York/Long Island Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/new-york-city-long-island-section-convention-ham-radio-university-2013-1>,
Bethpage, New York
- January 18-19 -- ARRL North Texas Section Convention <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-texas-section-convention-cowtown-hamfest-1>,

Fort Worth, Texas
- January 19 -- ARRL Southern Florida Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southern-florida-section-convention-3>,
Fort Myers, Florida
- January 25-26 -- ARRL Mississippi State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/mississippi-state-convention-capital-city-hamfe
st>,
Jackson, Mississippi
- January 26-27 -- ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/puerto-rico-state-convention>, Hatillo,
Puerto Rico
- February 2 -- ARRL South Carolina State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-carolina-state-convention-2>, North
Charleston, South Carolina; ARRL Virginia State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/virginia-state-convention-frostfest-1>,
Richmond, Virginia
- February 8-10 -- ARRL Southeastern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/southeastern-division-convention-orlando-hamcat
ion-1>,
Orlando, Florida
- February 15-16 -- ARRL Arizona State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arizona-state-convention-yuma-hamfest-1>,
Yuma, Arizona
- February 16 -- ARRL Arkansas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/arkansas-state-convention-winterfest>,
Hoxie, Arkansas
- February 23 -- ARRL Vermont State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/vermont-state-convention-ham-con-3>,
South Burlington, Vermont
- March 8-9 -- ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oklahoma-section-convention-green-country-hamfe
st-1>,
Claremore, Oklahoma; ARRL Louisiana Section Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-section-convention-acadiana-53rd-annu
al-hamfest>,
Rayne, Louisiana
- March 16 -- ARRL Nebraska State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/nebraska-state-convention-2>, Lincoln,
Nebraska; ARRL West Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/west-texas-section-convention-58th-annual-st-pa
trick-s-day-hamfest>,
Midland, Texas
- March 23 -- ARRL South Texas State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/south-texas-section-convention-greater-houston-
hamfest-3>,
Rosenberg, Texas
- March 29-30 -- ARRL Maine State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/maine-state-convention-3>, Lewiston,
Maine
- March 30 -- ARRL North Carolina State Convention

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/north-carolina-state-convention-raleigh-hamfest
-2>,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- April 13-14 -- Communications Academy
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/communications-academy-2013>, Seattle,
Washington
- April 19-20 -- Southeastern VHF Society Conference
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/svhfs-conference>, Cocoa Beach, Florida
- April 19-21 -- International DX Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/international-dx-convention-2>, Visalia,
California
- April 20 -- ARRL Louisiana State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/louisiana-state-convention-northeast-louisiana-
regional-ham-radiofest>,
Monroe, Louisiana
- April 26-28 -- ARRL Idaho State Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/idaho-state-convention-3>, Boise, Idaho
- May 31-June 2 -- ARRL Northwestern Division Convention
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/northwestern-division-convention-seapac-4>,
Seaside, Oregon

To find a convention or hamfest near you, click here
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests>.

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312. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-14 05:35:20 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-D14532.23001113122012@nntp.aioe.org>
Source record: 81

In article <kack4ddvd1@dont-email.me>, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
wrote:
> [...]
> Second, what else is in that band? I know government aircraft are down
> around 243 MHz, which is the emergency channel for government use (it's
> the second harmonic of 121.5 MHz, the civilian aircraft distress
> frequency), but the rest of the ~230 MHz to ~416 MHz band is a mystery
> to me.
> [...]

Scanner frequency lists show 225 to 380 or 400 as a "military air"
band with a default mode of AM. You can pick it up with a $140 Bearcat
scanner. Of course, the more interesting traffic will be encrypted and,
possibly, digital. Nothing that you can buy commercially will receive
that.

>This chart shows Lower Edge and Upper Edge in MHz
>followed by mode and Step in kHz.
>
>[...]
> 225.0000 379.9750 AM 25.0
> 380.0000 512.0000 NFM 12.5

296.8000----KENNEDY SPACE CENTER - SHUTTLE
296.8000----AIR/GROUND - ORBITER/SUIT (mode is AM, per Monitoring Times)

--
Klystron

313. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1844 - December 14 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-14 10:00:13 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121214100003.6945133C8C@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 82
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1844 - December 14 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1844 with a release date of December 14, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. A high altitude balloon carrying an amateur radio APRS transponder flies from California to Morocco; D-Star tests coming to the High Frequency bands; two nations on opposite sides of the world gain access to 472 to 479 Kilohertz and more on the Department of Homeland Security sponsored emergency communications traing at the 2013 Dayton Hamvention. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1844 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY APRS BALLOON LAUNCHED IN CALIFORNIA LANDS IN MOROCCO

A group of high altitude balloon experimenters have achieved a milestone. This with confirmation that their K6RPT-12 APRS equipped high altitude balloon has successfully crossed the Atlantic and landed in Morocco. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the details:

--

Amateur radio stations from the United Kingdom to the Azores had been listening for the transatlantic balloon signing K6RPT-12 on 144.390 MHz FM. This after it was lofted skyward from California at about 0126 UTC on Monday, December 3rd.

The balloon was launched by the California Near Space Project team with the intent of it crossing the Atlantic heading for the British Isles. When it left the USA it was traveling at over 185 an hour but was believed to have slowed down in its over-water trek to as little as 55 miles an hour. Knowing this, the payload was designed for over 60 hours of flight. It also included a heating system for its 144.390 MHz FM transmitter developed by Johnathan Corgan, AE6HO, to prevent it freezing during overnight flight. This was because the bitterly cold night temperatures at that altitude have caused the transmitters on several amateur radio balloons to fail.

After its journey across the Atlantic its APRS signals were first picked up by stations in Spain. It was last heard at 09:22:31 UTC on December 5th descending rapidly, indicating that the balloon had finally burst. Its last recorded position was 34°25.75' North and 3°58.96' West placing it in the Taza Provence of Morocco North-North East of Tazekka National Park.

It is believed there are less than 150 radio amateurs in Morocco and no known APRS stations. As such the balloon and its payload may never be recovered.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

It should be noted that the amateur radio APRS frequency is not standardized world-wide. The United States uses 144.390 MHz while the British Isles and Europe use 144.800 MHz. To see the See the K6RPT-12 APRS reported flight track please take your web browser to tinyurl.com/k6rpt-12 on the World-Wide-Web. (California Near Space Project, Southgate, others)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: HF D-STAR TESTS TO BE HELD SATURDAY AND SUNDAY UTC

D-Star is coming to a high frequency band near you. According to a post on the Illinois D-Star Reflector, by Kent Hufford, KQ4KK, D-Star High Frequency tests will be held Saturday at midnight UTC and Sunday at 1500 hours UTC. D-Star operation will last only 5 minutes on each band beginning on 6 meters and working down to 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 40 and finally 75 meters. The test will be compatible with Icom 9100 series transceivers and other D-Star equipped High Frequency transceivers. The posting did not mention specific frequencies to be used but asked those interested to monitor D-Star reflector 030C to coordinate. (KQ4KK, D-Star Reflector)

**

RESTRUCTURING: NEW ZEALAND HAMS GET 472 to 479 KHZ LOW FREQUENCY BAND

Hams in New Zealand are getting access to the 472 kHz to 479 kHz band. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Neachen, ZL2BHF, has more:

--

At the World Radiocommunication Conference held earlier this year the band from 472 kHz to 479 kHz was allocated to the Amateur service for use world wide on a secondary basis. Some nations almost immediately opened it to use by their ham radio communities and now it becomes our turn here, down under.

Its now has been agreed that New Zealand amateurs will be given access to this band following agreements made with the Radio Spectrum Policy

and Planning Group of the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment. And the rules they came up with are quite simple.

Like the rest of the world, the frequency range will be 472 kHz to 479 kHz on a secondary, non interfering basis with other spectrum users. Power output will be 25 watts effective radiated with no bandwidth restrictions.

As a result of this new allocation, New Zealand hams will loose access to the previous temporary low frequency allocation from 505 to 515 kHz. However the Ministry has agreed that the temporary use of the band by the nation's ham radio community will be permitted for another 12 months until the end of 2013. This is to provide amateurs with the opportunity to retune or rebuild their equipment to use the new band.

All in all not a bad way to end 2012 and begin the new year.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, in Nelson, New Zealand.

--

The rules creating the 472 kHz to 479 kHz low frequency band in New Zealand come are effective on December 20th. (NZART)

**

RESTRUCTURING: NEW SPECTRUM FOR UK HAMS AT 474 KHZ AND 5 MHZ

Meantime over in the United Kingdom, holders of a UK Full class license will soon be able to apply for a Notice of Variation to their ham tickets This to use 472 to 479 KHz as well as three additional 5 MHz channels that will permit up to 6 kHz bandwidth emissions.

The new 472 to 479 KHz band is being created as a result of the World Radiocommunications conference held earlier this year. The added spectrum in the 5 Experimental Band is the outcome of negotiations between the spectrums primary user and telecommunications regulator Ofcom. The primary user was unable to agree to contiguous spectrum, however it has been agreed that three additional non-contiguous frequencies will be available.

Notices of Variation will be accepted after January 1st of 2013. Details on the application process will be published shortly. (GB2RS)

**

RADIO POLITICS: IARU ACCEPTS TWO NEW MEMBERS

The Federation of Radio Sport of Azerbaijan and the St Vincent and the Grenadines Amateur Radio Club are the two newest members of the International Amateur Radio Union.

The Radio Sport of Azerbaijan has some 50 members while the Grenadines Amateur Radio Club hosts 21. Both nations have relatively small ham

radio populations with the former representing all 50 of its ham radio population and the latter representing 21 of that nation's 134.

As of February, 2009, the International Amateur Radio Union was composed of 162 national member societies. The addition of The Radio Sport of Azerbaijan and the Grenadines Amateur Radio Club now brings that total to 164. (IARU, Southgate, others)

**

RADIO LAW: CONFRONTATIONAL WORLD CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS BEING HELD DUBAI

A confrontational United Nations internet regulation treaty being discussed at a gathering in Dubai may impact on amateur radio operators. This, according to the telecommunications information website dot-nxt. Amateur Radio Newslines Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, explains:

--

At the heart of the issue is the term operating agencies. Currently the international telecommunication regulations or I-T-R's apply only to recognized operating agencies. This really means the large telecommunications operators in each country such as ATT and Verizon here in the United States.

Some countries want that term changed to just the term agencies. This would mean the I-T-R's would become applicable to a vastly larger number of groups. So rather than just ATT, British Telecom or Italia Telecom and the like, the international treaty would then apply to entities such as Google, Facebook, Microsoft and eBay just to name a few. In reality, just about every Internet company, as well private network operators, leased-line operators, government agencies and even amateur radio operators would be included in this new definition.

But this idea is not sitting well with many developed nations. Opposed so far are the United States, Canada, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Poland and the pan-European C-E-P-T and the Inter American Telecommunications Commission which is better known by the acronym Citel. On the other side in favor of the change are the Arab States, African States, Brazil, India, Philippines and several others.

In the meantime hthe entire conference risks grinding to a halt until this issue can be decided.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

You can find out more about the situation on-line at tinyurl.com/wcit-meeting-2012 (Dot-Nxt, NewsGateInternational)

**

BREAK 1

>From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W6GNS repeater serving Downey California.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: KANSAS HAM ISSUED $10000 NAL FOR ALLEGED OPERATION OF FM BROSDCAST STATION

A ham in Kansas has been issued a $10,000 Notice of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture for allegedly operating an unlicensed FM broadcast station. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

--

The proposed $10,000 fine was issued on December 5th to Glen Rubash, licensee of Amateur Radio Station KC0GPV. This for what the FCC terms as his apparently willful and repeated violating of Section 301 of the Communications Act. This by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 88.3 MHz in Manhattan, Kansas.

By way of background, this past September 26th agents from the Enforcement Bureau's Kansas City Office T-hunted the source of an 88.3 MHz signal to a transmitting antenna mounted on a pole next to a residence in Manhattan, Kansas. The agents determined that the signals from the antenna exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 of the Commission's rules and therefore required a license. The Commission's records showed that no authorization was issued to anyone for operation of an FM broadcast station at or near this address.

On September 27th the agents from the Kansas City Office again used direction-finding techniques to confirm if the station was still operating on 88.3 MHz from the same location, and found that it was. The agents, accompanied by the property owner, inspected the unlicensed station's antenna and transmitter. The latter was located in a locked detached garage. The property owner stated that he allowed Rubash to use the garage to operate the station and that he thought the operation was legal because Rubash told him that he was a licensed radio operator.

Later that same day a person it identified as Glen Rubash spoke to an agent from the Kansas City Office via telephone. At that time the regulatory agency claims that Rubash confirmed that he was an Extra class amateur licensee assigned call sign KC0GPV. He also admitted that he purchased the radio transmitter and that the station had been on the air for two months. The person on the phone reportedly added that he would not voluntarily relinquish the transmitter if asked to do so.

Now the FCC has acted in the case by proposing the $10,000 fine. It concludes, based on the evidence before it, that Mr. Rubash apparently willfully and repeatedly violated Section 301 of the Act by operating radio transmission equipment without the required Commission authorization and as such is liable for the proposed $10,000 fine.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im, Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona

--

As is customary, Rubash was given the customary 30 days to pay the proposed fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: UPDATED INFORMATION ON DHS EMERGENCY RESPONSE CLASS AH HAMVENTION 2013

The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications has announced that on January 14, 2013, it will begin accepting registration requests for the training class that it will be sponsoring next May at the 2013 Dayton Hamvention.

Students requesting to attend must meet all pre-requisites and provide electronic scanned images of certain documents at the time of registration. These include proof of completion of FEMA emergency incident instructional sessions IS-100.b, IS-200.b, IS-700.a and IS-800.b. They must also provide a copy of their General Class or above FCC amateur radio license. The DHS says that it is important that all listed documents be submitted at one time along with the registration request in order to be considered.

The session is limited to 50 students and the registration process will be closed when that number of qualified students is reached. But even if you are not among the 50 selected to attend the session there will be other training available. Word is that the instructors conducting the course will also be giving a forum at Hamventionr 2013 regarding the use of trained amateur radio operators as backup communicators in an emergency operations environment.

More information including the actual class and the e-mail address for pre-registration will soon be posted on-line at www.Hamvention.org. (Press release)

**

RESCUE RADIO: AUSTRALIA ACMA FINDS STOLEN EMERGENCY BEACON

Australian Search and Rescue was recently alerted that an activated emergency position-indicating radio beacon, or EPIRB had been stolen from the city of South Melbourne. After narrowing down its initial search, Search and Rescue called in the expertise of a field inspector from the Australian Communications Authority or ACMA. Using a Yagi directional antenna, he eventually found the errant device hanging from

overhead power lines. It was safely retrieved for evidence by members of the Victoria Police. For those not aware, EPIRB's are automatic or manually activated search and rescue beacons linked to satellites when turned on. (VK3PC)

**

HAM HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS: GETTING INTO THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT BY HAM RADIO

The Moose Jaw Canada Times Herald reports that kids in that city had a chance to tell their holiday gift requests to Santa up at the North Pole using amateur radio. Brenda MacKenzie, VE5TRG, and other members of the Moose Jaw Amateur Radio Club operated the ham radio links. You can read the complete story on-line at tinyurl.com/moose-jaw-holiday. (Via e-mail)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: NAMES IN THE NEWS OKLAHOMA STUDENTS HOLD RADIO TRIBUTE ON PEARL HARBOR DAY

Okalahoma's Lawton Constitution newspaper reports that students at the Eisenhower Middle School's amateur radio club recently commemorated the 71st anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day. The club held the tribute to honor all veterans, but especially the 2,402 Americans killed in the December 7, 1941 Japanese sneak attack on the United States base in Hawaii.

Clifton Harper, KE5YZB, is the teacher who sponsors the amateur radio club. He told the newspaper that students started contacting other amateur radio operators around the world at 8:30 a.m. and continued until 3:30 p.m. both local time. Three separate stations were in use including one in a trailer from the Lawton Amateur Radio Club operating as W5KS.

According to the newspaper, about 140 students took part in the event throughout the school day. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/lawton-pearl-harbor. (Lawton Constitution)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: WYONG MINI CONTEST UNIVERSITY OPEN FOR REGISTRATIONS

Registration to attend the free Mini Contest University at Australia's Wyong field day in February 2013 is now open. For details please visit tinyurl.com/contest-u-down-under on the World Wide Web. (VK2JI)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: HANDIHAM MANAGER'S TECHNOLOGY AWARD TO KK4JZX.

Some names in the news. Jose Tamayo, KK4JZX, has been named to receive the 2012 Handiham Manager's Technology Award. This for his dedication to the Handiham Remote Base software update project.

According to the Handihams, Tamayo has done exemplary work to debug and update the existing W4MQ remote base client software. He has lead the beta testing team and is working to build accessibility into the newest version of this important remote control client. (WA0TDA)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: BRITISH SINGER SARAH BRIGHTMAN TO BLAST OFF TO SPACE IN 2015

The Space Adventures Agency has confirmed that famed British soprano Sarah Brightman has signed an agreement with the Russian Space Agency and secured herself a space trip to the International Space Station for sometime in in 2015.

As previously reported here on Amateur Radio Newsline, about two months ago the singer was cleared to fly by the medical commission and set her schedule to begin gan her training at Russia's Cosmonaut Training Centre outside Moscow. More recently Brightman told a Russian newspaper she will also have to learn speak some Russian before her space trip to be able to communicate with the crew.

Brightman's eventual arrival on-orbit will denote a long period between visitors to the orbiting outpost. The last visitor was Cirque du Soleil founder Guy Laliberte who traveled into space in 2009. (G0SFJ, others)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: CQ NEW PRODUCTS EDITOR JOHN WOOD, SR., WV5J -SK

The changing of the guard in amateur radio continues with the sad news that John Wood, Sr., WV5J, who served as CQ's New Products Editor since 2009, passed away on December 3 after a brief battle with cancer.

A lifelong journalist, Wood spent most of his career as a reporter and editor for newspapers in and around Memphis, Tennessee. He lived in the Memphis suburb of Germantown.

A contributor to CQ for several years on a variety of topics, John became editor of the "What's New" column as of the magazine's December, 2009, issue. He continued writing occasional feature articles as well. His most recent, "There's a 'Secret Service' in Memphis on the 222 Ham Band," appeared in the Fall 2012 issue of CQ VHF.

Wood is survived by his wife of 41 years, Marie, WA4WFX; his son, John, Jr., KI4VCK; his daughter, Christi, and two grandchildren. The family requests that contributions in John's memory be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. At the time of his passing John Wood, Sr., WV5J, was only age 61. (CQ)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: HELICOPTER NEWS PIONEER JOHN SILVA -SK

The man who invented helicopter coverage for television, has died. John D. Silva was the chief engineer for Los Angeles television station KTLA when he convinced station executives to give him $40,000 to outfit a rented Bell helicopter with a TV camera for news coverage.

Silva then worked in secrecy with Hollywood special effects shops and engineers from the General Electric Corporation to find or invent technology small and light enough to fit on a helicopter. He and his small team broadcast their first air to ground signal on July 28, 1958 to Los Angeles viewers who would eventually come to equate a helicopter news coverage with a high-speed police pursuits and the like.

In an interview with Smithsonian Air & Space Magazine, Silva said he came up with the idea while on the freeway. He explained that he was driving on the Hollywood Freeway one morning and when the idea came to him.

Silva told Air & Space that he never thought about being a pioneer. Rather all that he ever wanted to do was get KTLA News there and get the picture before the competition got it.

The Los Angeles Times reported Silva died in Camarillo, California, of Pneumonia complications. He was age 92. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: HISTORIC BLETCHLEY PARK GB2BP QRT

A historic amateur radio station is going QRT for good. Over the weekend of December 15th and 16th, station GB2BP will be making its final transmissions from the famed Bletchley Park estate in the United Kingdom.

Bletchley Park has been the home of GB2BP as well as serving as the location of its sponsor the Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society for the past 18 years. But both are being forced to vacate the estate due to a change in its status to a museum. This will mean that it will have scheduled opening and closing times after which there will be no public access.

For those who are not aware of Bletchley Park's significance, during World War 2 it was the site of the United Kingdom's main message intercept center where ciphers and codes of several Axis countries were decrypted. The most important of these were the ciphers generated by the German Enigma and Lorenz machines. The work done there is generally

credited as one of the main reasons that the Allies won the war. While GB2BP may no longer be in full time residence on the Bletchley Park Estate it will re-appear occasionally as a special event station supporting public events at the new museum. (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: RUSSIAN HAM TO SPEND A YEAR IN SPACE:

Russian Cosmonaut Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF, along with NASA Astronaut Scott Kelly have been chosen for a one-year long term assignment aboard the International Space Station. According to NASA, the mission will which will begin in 2015 will include collecting scientific data that will be important to the future of human exploration of our solar system. Also it should help researchers to understand better how the human body reacts and adapts to the harsh environment of space as NASA plans for missions around the Moon, to an asteroid and ultimately to Mars. (ARRL)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: VOYAGER 1 REACHING INTERSTELLAR SPACE

Researchers say that NASA's long-lived Voyager 1 which is heading out of the solar system, has reached what they call the magnetic highway leading to interstellar space

Voyager 1 will be the first manmade object to leave the solar system. Scientists believe the probe is currently in an area of deep space where the magnetic field lines from the sun are intersecting with magnetic fields from interstellar space. They believe that this phenomenon is causing highly energetic particles from distant supernova explosions and other cosmic events to zoom inside the solar system, while less-energetic solar particles exit.

The Voyager 1 probe was launched 35 years ago to study the outer planets. It is currently some 11 billion miles from Earth. At that distance, it takes radio signals traveling at the speed of light 17 hours to reach Earth.

Voyager 2 which is traveling on a different path out of the solar system has experienced similar, though more gradual changes in its environment than Voyager 1. Scientists do not believe Voyager 2, which is about 9 billion miles from Earth, has yet reached the magnetic highway to interstellar space. (Space Update)

**

ON THE AIR: N4D CELEBRATES ARRL PUERTO RICO STATE CONVENTION

On the air, the ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention operate special event station N4D from January 11th to the 25, 2013 to commemorate the first ever ARRL Convention to be held there. Frequency to listenout on are 14.250, 21.350 and 28.450 MHz on the High Frequency babds as wll as

locally on 147.550 MHz FM on 2 meters. More information on the convention and specialo event station N4D is on-line at www.arrlpr.org or by e-mail to wavilesjr (at) yahoo (dot) com. (ARRL Puerto Rico State Convention)

**

DX

In DX, DD0VR and DE3BWR will be active from Vietnam through January 4th as XV0VR. During their stay they also plan to operate from Cat Ba Island December 18th to the 20th and Phu Quoc Island from December 30th through January 2nd. QSL these operations via DD0VR.

JA7LU will be active from Phu Quoc Island, Vietnam January 12th to the 16 as XV4LU. He will be operational on 40 through 10 meters on SSB and RTTY. QSL direct only via home call,

KE4TG will be active as J38RF from Grenada between February 6th and March 8th. His primary interest is the Digital modes but he may operate some CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign direct as listed at QRZ.com. His logs will be uploaded to Logbook of the World.

Lastly, several sources are reporting that a team of 10 operators will be active from Robinson Crusoe Island during mid-2013. It was also mentioned that this is the same group who activated D64K earlier this year. Look for more details to be forthcoming.

Above from various DX news sources,

**

SPACE AND THINGS: A STRANGE USE FOR A CUBESAT And finally this week, while hams and researchers look at the now venerable cubesats as communications and scientific research space platforms, a company in Scotland has come up with its own idea. How about space burials? No, we are not kidding as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK.

--

A Glasgow based company called Alba Space is planning to use cubesats for just that. Burials of human remains in space.

According to the FAQ on the Alba Space website, the company will take a portion of ones cremated ash and integrate it into its spacecraft called the AlbaCube. It will then launch it skyward using a commercial service provider who takes it from Earth into space.

Why choose Space Burial over other forms of end off life celebration? Alba Space says that space is a place were only very few and very fortunate people have had the chance to venture. The company says that it wants to help make space become a place that is accessible to the public and enable those who have an interest in it to fulfill their

life's ambition to do so. It notes that after passing on that 75% of people in the United Kingdom get cremated and you have to do something with the ashes, so why not a ride into space.

Will this be a burial option only for the rich and famous? Not according to Alba Space. It says that while it has not yet launched its pricing options it is aiming for it to be competitively priced with other funeral options. This so the average consumer can afford to take part.

And if you will excuse a pun or two, this could be another fascinating use for the final frontier or the most extreme of extreme DX.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Cheryl Lasek, K9BIK, in Zion, Illinois.

--

Alba Space says that it's still not sure when its space burial service might begin. It says that it's currently at its market research phase and are trying to gauge the demand for different services such as sub-orbital, low earth orbit and beyond. More about Alba Space's plans is on line at www.albaorbital.com. (Southgate)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at)arnewsline(dot)org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, in Vero Beach, Florida, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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314. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-14 14:51:53 UTC
From: Howard Lester <howardxtlester@verizon.net>
Message-ID: <kafee2$1te$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 83

"Bert" wrote

> Barbarosa's reason for using it is funny though:
>
> Mr. Barbosa explains that his authority is not based on his
> status as an amateur licensee (which he readily acknowledges
> does not authorize him to operate on the U.S. government
> frequency), but based on the authority vested in him by a
> Brazilian man, who is authorized to operate the radio equipment
> using the frequency 296.550 MHz in Brazil.

The other part I liked so much is his claim that the FCC, by shutting down his operation, violated his constitutional rights.

Howard N7SO

315. January 2013 QST - Digital Edition

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-15 00:38:51 UTC
From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121214203547.E631C27442C@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 84
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

*January 2013 QST - Digital Edition - *Go Now>
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201301/>
Digital QST <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201301/>

Digital QST

December 2012 QST - Digital Edition
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201301/>Dear ARRL Member,

The digital edition of January /QST/ is available now! Go to this link
and start reading: January 2013 /QST/
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201301/>.

* Explore Software Defined Radio for Less than $50
* Build a "Bias T" to send DC Power and Legal-Limit RF on the Same
Feed Line
* Try a Stealthy Antenna that Disappears When You're not On the Air
* Hunt Signals on 2 Meters with a Go-Anywhere Loop
* Take a Trip to Homebrew Heaven
* ...and much more!

Enjoy Content You Won't Find in the Print Edition...

* A video overview of the ICOM IC-2300H 2-Meter FM Transceiver
* A video overview of the LNR Precision FX-2 40/30 Meter QRP Transceiver
* An expanded "Microwavelengths" column on the topic of antenna
measurements

Apple App Store <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8>
An update is available for the *NEW /QST/ App* for Apple mobile device
users. The latest version of the app has an improved download feature
for offline reading of /QST/. The app is free in Apple's App Store
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8>.

Users with Android devices should use the enhanced web version
<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/arrl/qst_201301/> of /QST/ which has
been optimized to automatically recognize Android phones, tablets and
e-book readers.

Have a Happy New Year!

73,

Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Editor
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*What is a digital edition?

*The digital edition of /QST/ is an electronic form of the journal. All ARRL members have access to the digital edition of /QST/...a way to read and interact with the current issue of /QST/ anytime, anywhere. Each issue includes unique, digital-edition-only content such as video, audio features and extra content. Members can also access the digital archive for access to previous issues.

H*ow do I access the digital edition?*
/QST/ can be read online or downloaded onto some devices. Members must have a valid ARRL website login to access this benefit. You can always find a link to the current digital edition and archives at www.arrl.org/qst <http://www.arrl.org/qst>. Apple iOS device users (iPhone, iPad and iPod touch) can also access the digital edition from a dedicated /QST/ app. The app is free in Apple's App Store <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/qst/id531766442?mt=8>.

To login or register, go to www.arrl.org/myarrl <http://www.arrl.org/myarrl>.

Forgot password? Go to www.arrl.org/forgot-password <http://www.arrl.org/forgot-password> to reset your password.

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Digital QST

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316. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-15 01:08:38 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@arrl.net>
Message-ID: <i3inc8hghq0l7ka770ao718ceq72gmvofv@4ax.com>
Source record: 85

On Fri, 14 Dec 2012 09:51:53 EST, "Howard Lester"
<howardxtlester@verizon.net> wrote:

>The other part I liked so much is his claim that the FCC, by shutting down
>his operation, violated his constitutional rights.

We used to get that BS all the time from the CBers who claim to obey
only "all the legal laws". <G> The minute you acquire a license or
turn on a transmitter whether licensed or not, you come under the
FCC's rules requiring you to make the equipment/station available for
FCC inspection on request and to take the consequences - good or bad -
resulting from that inspection.

The amateur didn't think up that defense - his lawyer did that as a
"hail mary" attempt. Sorry - it doesn't work.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

317. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-15 07:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1355554802@panix.com>
Source record: 86
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.14 2011/12/31 20:05:40
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |
2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.
```

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

After a 30-day public discussion and feedback period to gauge reader opinions in March of 2009:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/d7d337db35f23326

the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team had decided to consider amending its charter, and permit limited simultaneous crossposting to rec.radio.amateur.moderated and one other unmoderated amateur-radio-related discussion newsgroup. After a successful trial period (90 days, through early July 2009), we decided to adopt this change permanently.

Approved rec.radio.amateur.* newsgroups are those that are currently listed in the latest version of the "List of Big Eight Newsgroups" which is crossposted monthly to news.announce.newgroups, news.groups, and news.lists.misc.

Approved alt.radio.amateur.* and alt.ham-radio.* newsgroups are those that have been created consistent with the suggestions in "So You Want to Create an Alt Newsgroup" at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/alt-creation-guide/

Approved regional hierarchy newsgroups are those that contain either "radio.amateur" or "ham-radio" in their names, including uk.radio.amateur and aus.radio.amateur.misc.

We will make every reasonable effort to keep our list of approved newsgroups up-to-date. In case we have overlooked any, and a submission is rejected in error as a result, the rejected submitter can E-mail us at our administrative contact address (in the signature at the bottom of this article, and the default Reply-To for the rejection message) requesting that it be added, and that the article be approved. We may still choose to reject articles crossposted to any alt.* newsgroup with an inappropriate name, including obscene language, embedded name-calling, or encouragement of unlawful conduct.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

This policy also prohibits links to, and discussions of, specific auctions. Posts on the subject of how ham operators can help newcomers to find good deals, or about the need to visit flea markets and look around locally before turning to auction sites, are acceptable, but not complaints about a single auction or auction site.

Postings that are entirely advertisements or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

Mentions of small amounts of free items, including both parts and equipment, for giveaway will be permitted on an occasional basis from casual, non-commercial owners, and at the discretion of the moderators. The items should be free except for reasonable direct costs such as shipping, must be directly amateur-radio-related, must be in serviceable condition, and be practical to ship to a distant recipient. This is intended as a common-sense exception to our ban on forsale postings, provided that it doesn't overwhelm the basic character of our discussion newsgroup with classified ads or requests to haul off scrap or junk in salvage condition.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

Because rec.radio.amateur.moderated is a Usenet newsgroup, there are implied or derived guidelines for participation that are drawn from the above articles about overall Usenet culture and tradition. Two of these implied or derived guidelines are encapsulated in two basic rules that our moderation team uses to initially determine whether an article is appropriate for our newsgroup. They are restated explicitly here for clarification:

Basic Rule #1: The article must be on-topic for amateur radio. A rule-of-thumb that our moderation team applies is whether the article mentions amateur radio, ham radio, some synonym for amateur or ham radio, some technique or practice of amateur or ham radio including closely related technical topics such as antennas or portable power, or regulatory politics that directly affect amateur radio. This rule-of-thumb is also applied to determine if an article in a thread has drifted too far off-topic. For example, articles that have drifted into general rants or monologues will probably be returned with a polite request to rewrite to include a reasonable amateur radio connection or angle.

Basic Rule #2: The article must not have excessive spelling, grammar, or logical argument errors affecting readability and understandability. The moderation team understands that clear, understandable, technical or expository writing is a skill that can only be perfected through a lifetime of focused training and practice. Because the moderation team does not want to hold submitters to a standard higher than what it can achieve itself, nor disrupt the newsgroup and discourage submitters by playing spelling or grammar police, it will only return for rewrite any article that cannot be reasonably understood by multiple moderators.

If it is necessary to return any article for a rewrite because the moderators have determined that it does not meet Basic Rule #1 or #2, please accept this constructive feedback in the manner in which it is intended. The moderation team offers its assistance to help rewrite any submitted article into a form that preserves its original intent and

meaning, but is also on-topic, as well as readable and understandable by others.

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly advertisements or other public relations campaigns are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information

is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true." "That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/governance/p7-8.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://web.archive.org/web/20100131043828/http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Guidelines regarding anonymity and pseudonyms |

Contributors to rec.radio.amateur.moderated are encouraged to use their | real names and/or amateur radio callsigns. This not only creates a | greater sense of community in the newsgroup, it also lends credibility | to posters' opinions. However, as a pragmatic concession to the | realities of the present-day Internet, and consistent with the practices | of other moderated newsgroups, pseudonyms and unroutable E-mail address | are permitted with some restrictions. |

We ask that the From: lines of submitted articles not misrepresent your | identity, not be changed often, and not match a user or domain name | other than your own (spoofing). Please also realize that if you use an | unroutable E-mail address, you will not be able to receive | acknowledgment or rejection messages for your submitted articles. |

2.10 Other unacceptable topics |

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Due to Usenet newsgroup access being eliminated at many ISP's, including MSN, AOL, RoadRunner, Time Warner, Verizon, Comcast, and Cox, we receive many article submissions asking about free or low-cost alternatives for accessing Usenet newsgroups such as ours. We initially permitted this topic in light of the significant impact to many of our readers due to this loss of access through their ISP's. However, this subject is arguably off-topic for our newsgroup, is better answered by other sources, and better discussed in other venues. Because of this, we will no longer approve submissions that request or suggest where to obtain access to Usenet newsgroups. For more information about this topic, please consult the following:

- The last approved thread of discussion about this topic on our newsgroup from October 2008:

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.radio.amateur.moderated/browse_thread/thread/19770b88ec527aff/8dcee92de293f615?hl=en#8dcee92de293f615

- A list of News Service Providers maintained by the Big-8 Management Board:

http://www.big-8.org/wiki/News_Service_Providers |

- A list of Public News Servers at the Open Directory Project:

http://www.dmoz.org/Computers/Usenet/Public_News_Servers/

- An article with links and reader suggestions at Broadband Reports:

http://www.broadbandreports.com/shownews/96318

- Google Groups:

http://groups.google.com

The rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team does not endorse or recommend any particular News Service Provider (NSP). We encourage our readers to choose the free or subscription service that best meets their own personal needs based on their own evaluation of the available alternatives.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

318. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-15 15:05:37 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <kai3jq$bf6$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 87

On 12/14/2012 8:08 PM, Phil Kane wrote:
> On Fri, 14 Dec 2012 09:51:53 EST, "Howard Lester"
> <howardxtlester@verizon.net> wrote:
>
>> The other part I liked so much is his claim that the FCC, by shutting down
>> his operation, violated his constitutional rights.
>
> We used to get that BS all the time from the CBers who claim to obey
> only "all the legal laws".<G> The minute you acquire a license or
> turn on a transmitter whether licensed or not, you come under the
> FCC's rules requiring you to make the equipment/station available for
> FCC inspection on request and to take the consequences - good or bad -
> resulting from that inspection.

IANALB, ISTM that someone who never applied for a license wouldn't have agreed to make his equipment, or anything else, available for inspection. The FCC, of course, can take whatever action is available to it, but I hope that I'm still able to refuse entry to my home when a federal employee arrives without a search warrant.

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne

319. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-15 16:47:26 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <50cc9d66$0$61647$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 88

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <kai3jq$bf6$1@dont-email.me> Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net> writes:

>On 12/14/2012 8:08 PM, Phil Kane wrote:
>> On Fri, 14 Dec 2012 09:51:53 EST, "Howard Lester"
>> <howardxtlester@verizon.net> wrote:
>>
>>> The other part I liked so much is his claim that the FCC, by shutting down
>>> his operation, violated his constitutional rights.
>>
>> We used to get that BS all the time from the CBers who claim to obey
>> only "all the legal laws".<G> The minute you acquire a license or
>> turn on a transmitter whether licensed or not, you come under the
>> FCC's rules requiring you to make the equipment/station available for
>> FCC inspection on request and to take the consequences - good or bad -
>> resulting from that inspection.

>IANALB, ISTM that someone who never applied for a license wouldn't have
>agreed to make his equipment, or anything else, available for
>inspection. The FCC, of course, can take whatever action is available to
>it, but I hope that I'm still able to refuse entry to my home when a
>federal employee arrives without a search warrant.

>Bill, W1AC

>--
>Bill Horne

Reading through NAL's at the ARRL web site that involve refusal to allow
station inspection, they point to Section 303(n) of the Communications
Act of 1934, as amended, as giving the FCC broad authority to demand
inspection of any licensed radio station, or even stations that should
be licensed, within U.S. jurisdiction. Search warrants and the Fourth
Amendment may only apply to criminal matters, and FCC enforcement
actions, including fines and forfeitures, are civil administrative
matters. The distinction, thin as it may be, is that agents are only
inspecting your equipment, not searching your entire house. You may
disagree, of course, but the courts have either upheld, or not
overturned, this and other relevant sections of the Communications Act,
so it is currently "law of the land."

See:

http://transition.fcc.gov/eb/otherinfo/inspect.html

Again, IANAL.

(73, Paul, K3FU)

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlDMnT4ACgkQ6Pj0az779o6s4ACfXPWpHm8pWkxh2zAn0eA1Bch7
nboAoIIsooob3j8LZvfSzaDPFo5jpPXt
=V89L
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

320. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-15 17:26:31 UTC
From: Howard Lester <howardxtlester@verizon.net>
Message-ID: <kaibrteq1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 89

"Phil Kane" wrote

>> violated his constitutional rights.

> We used to get that BS all the time from the CBers who claim to obey
> only "all the legal laws". <G> The minute you acquire a license or
> turn on a transmitter whether licensed or not, you come under the
> FCC's rules requiring you to make the equipment/station available for
> FCC inspection on request and to take the consequences - good or bad -
> resulting from that inspection.
>
> The amateur didn't think up that defense - his lawyer did that as a
> "hail mary" attempt. Sorry - it doesn't work.

Many years ago I read a newspaper article about a couple who lived along the Columbia River, and someone (or some agency) was erecting a structure that, to the couple, would impair their view. They claimed that losing their pristine? view violated their constitutional rights.... *sigh*

Howard N7SO

321. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-16 01:24:20 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@arrl.net>
Message-ID: <dl1qc8lh78i3of96s9d69cilnm8ipsp2u0@4ax.com>
Source record: 90

On Sat, 15 Dec 2012 10:05:37 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
wrote:

>I hope that I'm still able to refuse entry to my home when a
>federal employee arrives without a search warrant.

There is a vast legal difference between a search (requires a warrant)
and an administrative inspection which doesn't require a warrant. One
can refuse the latter, but there are penalties that can be levied for
failure to make the "station" (equipment and records) available for
inspection upon reasonable request, defined as during normal business
hours or at any time that the transmissions are made or shortly
thereafter.

If you want to play the "show me your warrant" game, turn in your
amateur (and other) radio license. Licensees - or those who are
operating radio transmitters in accordance with group authorization,
such as FRS or CB or Part 15 devices or cellphones, for that matter -
are expected to cooperate with the FCC or be subject to penalties.

Plain and simple.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

322. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-16 17:20:02 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-313A21.01490216122012@nntp.aioe.org>
Source record: 91

In article <dl1qc8lh78i3of96s9d69cilnm8ipsp2u0@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <k2asp@arrl.net> wrote:

> There is a vast legal difference between a search (requires a warrant)
> and an administrative inspection which doesn't require a warrant. One
> can refuse the latter, but there are penalties that can be levied for
> failure to make the "station" (equipment and records) available for
> inspection upon reasonable request, defined as during normal business
> hours or at any time that the transmissions are made or shortly
> thereafter.
>
> If you want to play the "show me your warrant" game, turn in your
> amateur (and other) radio license. Licensees - or those who are
> operating radio transmitters in accordance with group authorization,
> such as FRS or CB or Part 15 devices or cellphones, for that matter -
> are expected to cooperate with the FCC or be subject to penalties.
>
> Plain and simple.

The FCC is an executive branch agency, like the Nuclear Regulatory
Commission. It has a quasi-legislative role that is has expanded
immensely through a skillful manipulation of the permit and license
processes. It has no power over persons who do not hold licenses or
permits other than the enforcement of federal laws that were passed by
Congress. As such, it has no particular access to your home, if you have
no radio station and, therefore, no license.

--
Klystron

323. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-16 17:20:55 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <kaksriadg1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 92

On 12/15/2012 8:24 PM, Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sat, 15 Dec 2012 10:05:37 EST, Bill Horne<bill@horneQRM.net>
> wrote:
>
>> I hope that I'm still able to refuse entry to my home when a
>> federal employee arrives without a search warrant.
>
> There is a vast legal difference between a search (requires a warrant)
> and an administrative inspection which doesn't require a warrant. One
> can refuse the latter, but there are penalties that can be levied for
> failure to make the "station" (equipment and records) available for
> inspection upon reasonable request...
>
> If you want to play the "show me your warrant" game, turn in your
> amateur (and other) radio license. ...
>
> Plain and simple.

Perhaps not so simple. If my equipment is in an outbuilding (many hams still operate from a "Shack"), and the FCC demands access to my home on the premise that I have [whatever it is they want to find] inside my house instead of in the shack, are they able to revoke my ham license for saying "Get a warrant"?

This isn't an academic question: if I have a copy of <politically incorrect literature> on my coffee table, or a few <politically incorrect refugees> in my cellar, I might choose to bring my two-meter HT to the door when an FCC inspector rings the bell, and tell him "That's the station right there in your hand". What if he says "You have to let me in"?

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne

324. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-17 01:55:17 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@arrl.net>
Message-ID: <sh2sc8l13m2ufh4ouri6pfff7g2lai5ial@4ax.com>
Source record: 93

On Sun, 16 Dec 2012 12:20:02 EST, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> The FCC is an executive branch agency, like the Nuclear Regulatory
>Commission. It has a quasi-legislative role that is has expanded
>immensely through a skillful manipulation of the permit and license
>processes. It has no power over persons who do not hold licenses or
>permits other than the enforcement of federal laws that were passed by
>Congress. As such, it has no particular access to your home, if you have
>no radio station and, therefore, no license.

Wrong on several counts.

1. The FCC is not part of the executive branch. It is an
administrative regulatory agency, created by The Congress and
responsible thereto. All of its powers are created by Congressional
legislation.

2. The FCC has "power" over anyone operating (a specific legal term in
communications law) a radio transmitter, or manufacturing or marketing
(another specific legal term in communications law) specific types of
electronic equipment, whether they have a license or not. So sez the
statutes, regulations, and case law.

Read some of the Forfeiture Orders against unlicensed operators
claiming "I wasn't operating the unattended equipment" to get a
feeling for what "operating" means in that sense.

3. The FCC through its enforcement agents have "access to your home"
by requesting access. If it is refused, there are legal remedies,
including but not limited to administrative penalties which the FCC
itself levies and if necessary the Federal courts enforce, and
recourse to legal processes such as in rem equipment seizures, a
Federal court order enforced by the US Marshal Service under the
guidance of FCC personnel.

You are not a communications lawyer - don't try to play one.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

325. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-17 01:55:38 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@arrl.net>
Message-ID: <dq2sc8hvjlrqst80cm6cbtkj1emcv578mc@4ax.com>
Source record: 94

On Sun, 16 Dec 2012 12:20:55 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
wrote:

>Perhaps not so simple. If my equipment is in an outbuilding (many hams
>still operate from a "Shack"), and the FCC demands access to my home on
>the premise that I have [whatever it is they want to find] inside my
>house instead of in the shack, are they able to revoke my ham license
>for saying "Get a warrant"?

Sounds good to me but it doesn't work that way. Pull the "get a
warrant" (i.e. station unavailable for inspection on reasonable
request) often enough and get tagged as an unrepentant sinner (the FCC
term is "lacks sufficient character to remain a licensee") and the
conveyor belt starts. License revocation is the last resort, not the
first thing out of the box. Smart people don't tug on the FCC's
cape.....

>This isn't an academic question: if I have a copy of <politically
>incorrect literature> on my coffee table, or a few <politically
>incorrect refugees> in my cellar, I might choose to bring my two-meter
>HT to the door when an FCC inspector rings the bell, and tell him
>"That's the station right there in your hand". What if he says "You have
>to let me in"?

Let's get this straight - the request is to inspect the equipment, not
to go on a fishing expedition for stuff that is not related thereto.
The FCC is not "la migra". If there is reasonable cause to believe
that you are not permitting access to all radio equipment that can be
logically involved in the request, you have not made the station
"available for inspection" whether it is located in your house, your
outbuilding, your RV or elsewhere.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

326. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-17 13:36:40 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <tol2q9-2ji.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 95

In article <kaksriadg1@dont-email.me>,
Bill Horne <wr2+isowri@william-warren.com> wrote:

>Perhaps not so simple. If my equipment is in an outbuilding (many hams
>still operate from a "Shack"), and the FCC demands access to my home on
>the premise that I have [whatever it is they want to find] inside my
>house instead of in the shack, are they able to revoke my ham license
>for saying "Get a warrant"?
>
>This isn't an academic question: if I have a copy of <politically
>incorrect literature> on my coffee table, or a few <politically
>incorrect refugees> in my cellar, I might choose to bring my two-meter
>HT to the door when an FCC inspector rings the bell, and tell him
>"That's the station right there in your hand". What if he says "You have
>to let me in"?

I am not a lawyer, but here's how I would interpret Part 97: If, in
fact, you can truly state to the FCC inspector that the HT is the only
piece of transmitting equipment on the property, and if you can hand
the inspector whatever records or notes you may have taken concerning
the operation of the HT, then you have probably complied with the
letter of the regulation:

97.103 (c) The station licensee must make the station and the station
records available for inspection upon request by an FCC
representative.

Whether they believe you, and whether they decide to pursue action
against your license would be another matter, of course. If, for
example, you hand them an unmodified and entirely legal 2-meter HT,
and they already have independent evidence that *somebody* inside
your house is broadcasting pornographic movies on 11 meters using a
10-kilowatt linear amplifier, I rather imagine that they would
conclude that you had not made your *entire* station available for
inspection :-)

Proving to them (or to an administrative judge) that you have no other
transmitting equipment, in a building to which you refuse to permit
entry, might be difficult. Unfortunately our legal system doesn't
have the direct equivalent of Heinlein's "Fair Witness".

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

327. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-18 22:20:33 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <50cf47cc$0$61621$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 96

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <sh2sc8l13m2ufh4ouri6pfff7g2lai5ial@4ax.com> Phil Kane <k2asp@arrl.net> writes:

[...]

>3. The FCC through its enforcement agents have "access to your home"
>by requesting access. If it is refused, there are legal remedies,
>including but not limited to administrative penalties which the FCC
>itself levies and if necessary the Federal courts enforce, and
>recourse to legal processes such as in rem equipment seizures, a
>Federal court order enforced by the US Marshal Service under the
>guidance of FCC personnel.

[...]

Hi Phil,

Thanks, as always, for your concise and knowledgeable answers.

A couple of honest layman's questions on the subject that come to mind
that perhaps you could illuminate with further knowledgeable answers:

- Yes, the FCC inspectors are not law enforcement officers, and are
not there to investigate a criminal matter or make arrests
(otherwise, they would have one or more sworn officers of the
U.S. Marshals Service along with them). However, practically, how
much active violations of the law, whether communications-related or
otherwise, that they witnessed would they be professionally obliged
to overlook on their visit? Extreme examples I can think of would
be illegal drug or alcohol manufacturing, possession of illegal
weapons, child abuse and neglect, etc. Is there a threshhold where
an FCC inspector would pass along what he saw to local or federal
law enforcement?

- For communications (or other) law matters that might eventually rise
to later criminal charges, isn't there a legal Catch-22 here?
Specifically, you can't refuse an inspection by the FCC, under
threat of civil forfeiture and/or loss of license, but if you do, is
whatever evidence gathered from the initial inspection considered to
be the result of a "voluntary consent" to search, an "in plain view"
exception, or would your defense attorney be able to make
significant legal hash out of the concept that it was "fruit of a
poisoned tree" and thus inadmissible? Or perhaps there is another
legal avenue to secure a criminal conviction using evidence that
might be at least partially based on the information gathered from

an FCC inspection? Is the only way to protect your right against
self-incrimination to open yourself up to civil action by the FCC by
refusing the initial request for inspection?

(73, Paul, K3FU)

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlDPR3IACgkQ6Pj0az779o5j9QCgsPHHy1kl7S91OAoVE1b/exSu
uzMAoMBKg2fj3H72hTAlGbGB19osMhn5
=kh8J
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

328. Re: All Digital Receiver (or nearly all digital)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-19 21:05:07 UTC
From: rickman <gnuarm@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <kat9fpimp2@dont-email.me>
Source record: 97
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.homebrew,rec.radio.amateur.moderated

I thought I would cross post this to rec.radio.amateur.moderated. They
have made a number of announcements about this and seem to be
encouraging the practice.

Rick

On 12/19/2012 3:51 PM, rickman wrote:
> On 12/19/2012 10:26 AM, garyr wrote:
>>
>> I don't understand how you intend to use an LVDS input for the WWVB
>> signal?
>> Could you explain.
>
> I guess you didn't read my initial post. My intent is to create an
> all-digital receiver at very low power. The receiver ICs around use
> standard analog technology to detect the AM signal. WWVB has added phase
> modulation which should be receivable at a lower SNR. I also want to
> detect both modulation schemes and compare the results.
>
>
>> Have you considered using a WWVB receiver IC? I don't know what kind of
>> power they require but they generate the 1pps PWM signal which could be
>> processed by a low-power microprocessor very easily.
>
> They are fairly low power as can be CPU chips when cycled on and off as
> needed. But I want to do this in an FPGA so I can see just how low power
> it can be.
>
>
>> http://www.c-max-time.com/products/showProduct.php?id=2
>> http://www.pvelectronics.co.uk/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=7
>>
>> http://www.ntp-time-server.com/wwvb-receiver/wwvb-receiver.htm
>>
>> I've constructed loop antennas using both RG-58 (60 KHz) and RG-6, or
>> something similar to RG-6 (~20 KHz) and had good luck with both. I
>> haven't
>> compared the outputs of both tuned to 60 KHz so I can't say much about
>> how
>> their electrical performance compare. The RG-6 with the aluminum
>> shield is a
>> PITA
>> because you can't make a solder connection to it. Self-resonance will
>> not be

>> a problem. 100' of RG-58 on a 1 meter dia. frame required about 25 nF to
>> resonate at 60 KHz. One advantage of the febo-type antenna with the
>> 1-turn
>> pickup loop is that its output impedance is very low which means that the
>> antenna can be located away from the receiver.
>
> The cable I have already has F type connectors on the ends, so I don't
> care about the aluminum shield. I did have to shop around a bit to find
> one with an all copper inner conductor. Seems they use copper coated
> steel for CATV. I think my numbers are for a bit less than 80 nF of
> capacitance so I bought a bunch of 15 nF silver mica parts and some
> other small values to tune it in closely, then I have a triple bank,
> 0-500 pF tuner cap from an old receiver for final tuning. Once I have
> the rest of the system working well, I'll likely use fixed values of
> caps to tune the antenna without the variable cap. I saw one antenna
> that used a bank of roughly power of 2 caps with switches to allow the
> antenna to be tuned easily, cute.
>
> I am thinking of using a ferrite core as a coupling transformer as it
> will give me a lot of voltage gain. I am looking to get towards 10,000
> gain from combined Q and transformer.
>
> The LVDS input on the FPGA will act as a 1 bit ADC. I was planning to
> use this in a Sigma-Delta converter and produce a 4 bit value at 240 kHz
> (4x carrier rate). I'm not sure I need the Sigma-Delta converter and
> might end up just using the 1 bit from the LVDS directly. By
> downconverting to DC and downsampling to 30 Hz I will get a *lot* of
> processing gain with an SNR improvement of some 33 dB (assuming
> uncorrelated noise). Another way to look at the digital design is as a
> very long FIR filter resulting in a filter with a very narrow bandpass
> or one bin of a DFT. Turns out they are all the same math in this case
> (multiply by 1, 0, -1, 0 sequence).
>
> There are a few wrinkles I haven't figured out yet. I need a sample
> clock that is both accurate and low power. I have yet to find that. XO
> oscillators I have found over 1 MHz are all in the mA range. I'm
> thinking of using the very poor internal oscillator in the FPGA and
> calibrating it to a 32.768 kHz reference which can be both accurate and
> low power. But I don't yet know if the internal oscillator is low power
> enough. I need to fire up the eval board (gratis from NuHorizons) and
> measure the power consumption with and without the internal oscillator
> enabled. If the power consumption is low enough I can frequency lock it
> to the clock oscillator and come up with a calibration factor. Then the
> sample clock can be generated internally using a DCO updated with each
> calibration.
>
> Thanks for discussing this with me. I like to bounce ideas off of other
> people.
>
> Rick

329. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-20 21:20:45 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@arrl.net>
Message-ID: <d045d8tg1i3kqokscd9vr9spps28lv7gnj@4ax.com>
Source record: 98

On Tue, 18 Dec 2012 17:20:33 EST, Paul W. Schleck
<pschleck@oasis.novia.net>" wrote:

>A couple of honest layman's questions on the subject that come to mind
>that perhaps you could illuminate with further knowledgeable answers:
>
> - Yes, the FCC inspectors are not law enforcement officers, and are
> not there to investigate a criminal matter or make arrests
> (otherwise, they would have one or more sworn officers of the
> U.S. Marshals Service along with them). However, practically, how
> much active violations of the law, whether communications-related or
> otherwise, that they witnessed would they be professionally obliged
> to overlook on their visit? Extreme examples I can think of would
> be illegal drug or alcohol manufacturing, possession of illegal
> weapons, child abuse and neglect, etc. Is there a threshhold where
> an FCC inspector would pass along what he saw to local or federal
> law enforcement?

That comes up quite often (I was involved in one of these early in my
FCC career - stolen CB equipment). In those cases, we "pass the buck"
to the FCC General Counsel who will (or will not) authorize passing
the information to the US Attorney or local law enforcement. Usually
the determination is whether the agent is lawfully in a place to
observe what is in plain sight. In that case, the agent serves as a
witness rather than an arresting officer. For minor stuff - they have
better things to do with their time and the taxpayers' money.

> - For communications (or other) law matters that might eventually rise
> to later criminal charges, isn't there a legal Catch-22 here?
> Specifically, you can't refuse an inspection by the FCC, under
> threat of civil forfeiture and/or loss of license, but if you do, is
> whatever evidence gathered from the initial inspection considered to
> be the result of a "voluntary consent" to search, an "in plain view"
> exception, or would your defense attorney be able to make
> significant legal hash out of the concept that it was "fruit of a
> poisoned tree" and thus inadmissible? Or perhaps there is another
> legal avenue to secure a criminal conviction using evidence that
> might be at least partially based on the information gathered from
> an FCC inspection? Is the only way to protect your right against
> self-incrimination to open yourself up to civil action by the FCC by
> refusing the initial request for inspection?

To be honest, when one operates a radio transmitter one knows - or
should know - that they are open to inspection by Federal agents. One
gives up a certain amount of privacy to be accorded the privilege of

doing so whether legally or otherwise.

The Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination is
applicable only to criminal proceedings, not administrative processes.

The contrast is as follows: licensed operators- whether by individual
license or licensed by rule, such as CB or FRS or even Part 15 devices
- are subject to the penalties for "not making the station available
for inspection" rule, which is a pure administrative process.
Unlicensed operators ("bootleggers") are subject to the penalties for
operating an unlicensed station (violation of Section 301 of the Comm
Act) which can be either administrative or criminal.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

330. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1845 - December 21 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-21 10:00:17 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121221100003.67A4D33C8C@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 99
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1845 - December 21 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1845 with a release date of December 21, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. New Zealand approves a Digital amateur radio repeater to test compatibility with other radio services; the United States says no to a new I-T-U treaty to govern the Internet; the Dutch military wont give up 915 MHz for unlicensed short range devices; and a new eye on the sky down-under will warn of solar eruptions. Find out the details are on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1845 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO COMPATIBILITY: NEW ZEALAND ATV REPEATER TO TEST COMPATABILITY WITH COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING

In what may be a first anywhere world-wide, a New Zealand amateur radio service digital ATV repeater has been given a chance to test its compatibility with commercial broadcasters. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, reports from down-under:

--

New Zealand Radio Spectrum Management or RSM has granted the first Digital Amateur TV License to NZART Branch 74, the Wellington VHF Group, for use at its main station located on Mount Belmont, in Wellington.

The main features of License 236831 are: Digital TV Channel 25 (DTV25); 502 MHz to 510 MHz; DVB-T format; 7.7 MHz emission bandwidth; 100 Watts mean effective isotropic radiated power and horizontal polarization

The license is valid for an initial period of 6 months, from 1st January 2013 to 30th June 2013.

The license permits DATV transmissions for the purpose of testing compatibility with services on the adjacent frequencies and requires the production of a comprehensive report to RSM.

The DTV25 channel is, in effect, the guard band between Communications services below 502 MHz and Digital TV Broadcasts above 510 MHz (DTV26 and above).

It is hoped that these tests will, once again, demonstrate the engineering capabilities of Radio Amateurs and lead the way to the granting of DATV licenses throughout New Zealand.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, in Nelson, New Zealand.

--

If the test proves successful it holds the potential of opening up a new concept in channel sharing between amateur radio and other telecommunications services. (ZL2BHF)

**

RADIO LAW: FOLLOW-UP - US SAYS NO TO DUBAI INTERNET TREATY

A follow-up to last weeks story regarding that confrontational meeting in Dubai to discuss the future of the Internet. As the gathering drew to a close the United States joined 20 other counties in refusing to sign a treaty that they say will harm Internet freedom.

The final proposal was forged at an international communications conference that ended Friday, December 14th. A major problem of the treaty produced by the 193 nation International Telecommunications Union was its endorsement of greater control over the Internet by governments.

United States Ambassador Terry Kramer said that rejecting the treaty was an obvious direction for the U.S. delegation to take. He told the media that there were too many concerns that were problematic for the nation.

AS reported last week, one issue troubling the United States is language extending the treaty to Internet Service Providers and private network operators, as well as governments. The United States believes this would invite greater government control of the Internet. The same is true of provisions in the treaty to fight cybercrime. According to the U.S. delegation the broad powers designed to increase network security could too easily be abused by governments.

The chair of the World Conference on International Communications is Mohamed Nasser Al-Ghanim. He disagreed with the dissenting countries noting that their concerns are addressed in the text. Al-Ghanim said that special provisions were written into the treaty to say that content is excluded and that he Internet will continue to express freedom of thought as it has.

If the Dubai conference showed anything, it's that a major schism exists between the developed nations and much of the ITU over Internet issues. Some believe this could result in a second, more strictly regulated Internet emerging, although experts acknowledge that would be difficult to actually create.

The final version of the treaty goes into effect in 2015, but without the signatures of many of the Internet super powers, its effect is likely to be minimal at best. (Various Internet news sources)

**

RESTERUCTURING: DUTCH MILITARY STILL INSIST ON 915 MHZ

With almost 42 CEPT nations reporting that 915 to 921 MHz is empty, or emptying, it is hoped the band will soon be made available for Short Range Devices or SRD's.

An article by Bill Ray in UK newspaper The Register implies that the Dutch military appear to be just about the only obstacle to 915 to 921 MHz being available for Short Range Devices use on a world-wide basis.

To date there has been no globally available license exempt spectrum for Short Range Devices available between 42 MHz and 2.4 GHz. In some countries such as the United Kingdom, spectrum at 433 to 435 MHz has been used as a stopgap move. However this has caused considerable interference to other existing licensed services. (UK Register, Southgate)

**

RADIO FROM SPACE: NORTH KOREA SATELLITE ATTAINS ORBIT BUT NOBODY HAS HEARD IT TRANSMIT

North Korea appears to have successfully launched a satellite into space through the use of its Unha 3 satellite launcher, but may have lost control over the bird soon after it attained orbit.

As reported by several news outlets, according to U.S. officials, the satellite which was launched by North Korea on Wednesday, December 12th is now believed to tumbling out of control in an uncontrolled orbit and nobody is quite sure what the spacecraft's purpose or capabilities are.

North Korea lofted the spacecraft on the long-range rocket from its Sohae Satellite Launch Station on the nation's northwest coast. The launch was detected by United States missile warning systems. NORAD, the North American Aerospace Defense Command said the Unha-3 rocket's first stage fell into the Yellow Sea, while the second stage fell into the Philippine Sea. It went on to state that the missile deployed an object that appeared to achieve orbit.

According to the ITU the North Koreans have so far not specified the type or format of the data or video transmissions it plans to make through the satellite although said it expects the transmissions to continue for up to 2 years. Currently the only claim from North Korea is that the bird is transmitting music on either 470 or 479 MHz but so far no monitoring stations have reported hearing this new bird or its sound. Similar claims were made in 1998 for another North Korean orbital launch attempt that is believed to have failed. (Space.com and various news sources)

**

HAM RADIO NEAR SPACE: END OF THE WORLD TRANSATLANTIC HIGH ALTITUDE BALLOON PREMATURELY BURSTS

The transatlantic crossing attempt by an amateur radio balloon carrying an 18 MHz PSK beacon ended over the coast of Mississippi when the balloon prematurely burst.

The ham radio balloon called BLT-32 carried a PSK 31 transmitter on 18.100 MHz. It was due to be launched late Saturday, December 15th from near Sugarland, Texas with its destination aimed at Europe. According to reports it only made it a few hundred miles.

The South Texas Balloon Launch Team had joined the N0D End of the World Special Event with the launch its high altitude 'floater' balloon with hope of it reaching Europe before the End of the World took place as described in one Mayan calendar. And in keeping with the theme of the event the beacons and APRS tracker on the balloon were to use the N0D call sign. N0D meaning Now Zero-Days. And it was a case of Now Zero-Days for this ham radio balloon flight.

As reported last week a similar ham radio floater balloon launched by a group in Northern California dis make it across both the United States and the Atlantic Ocean before descending in Morocco. (Southgate)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UK REGULATOR OFCOM SUPPORTS INVALIDATED EXAM

The United Kingdom's Radio Communications Foundation or RCF has announced that telecommunications regulator Ofcom has supported its decision to disallow an amateur radio examination in Northern Ireland.

According to a statement on the RCF, the Ofcom findings were that there is no hard evidence of wrong doing by the club or candidates but nevertheless the examination results were considered unsafe. Also that the suspension of the club concerned from running examinations was appropriate in the circumstances but it is now free to resume this activity.

The Radio Communications Foundation has offered a free re test to both of the candidates whose exam was invalidated. (Southgate)

**

BREAK 1

Wishing you a truly great holiday season, from the United States of America, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the W4CN repeater of the Western Radio Transmitting Society serving Louisville, Kentucky.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC AFFIRMS $16000 FINE FOR OUT OF BAND OPERATION

Back in the USA, the FCC has affirmed a $16,000 fine issued to a radio amateur for his alleged operating on a frequency reserved for government use only. We have the details in this report:

--

Recipient of the monetary forfeiture order is Joaquim Barbosa, N2KBJ, of Elizabeth, New Jersey, whom the FCC says operated a transmitter on the frequency 296.550 MHz without Commission authorization.

In his own defense Barbosa who holds an Extra class license, filed a response to the original Notice of Apparent Liability. In it he admitted to operating a radio transceiver on the frequency 296.550 MHz but contended that that cancellation or a substantial reduction of the then proposed $20,000 forfeiture is warranted nonetheless for several reasons. First that he reasonably believed that he had authority to operate on the frequency 296.550 MHz. Second, that his constitutional rights had been violated. Third that the unlicensed operation did not cause harm or interference. Forth that the forfeiture amount is not supported by case precedent and lastly that there are other factors such as his cooperation with the investigation, inability to pay, and prior history of overall compliance with the rules.

But the FCC bought only one of Barbosa's arguments. In issuing its final order it agreed that a reduction of the forfeiture amount was warranted based on its review of the record and finding that Barbosa, prior to this investigation, has a history of overall compliance with the Commission's rules. So after consideration of the entire record including Barbosa's response to the initial Notice of Apparent Liability that it was going to knock $4000 of the now affirmed fine and reduce it to the $16000 level.

For the amateur radio Newsline I'm Heather Embee, KB3TZD, near Berwick, Pennsylvania.

--

As this is now an affirmed fine, Barbosa was given only until close of business on December 31st to pay it or the case may be referred to the U.S. Department of Justice for enforcement of the forfeiture pursuant to Section 504(a) of the Communications Act. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC REDUCES FINE ISSUED TO NY UNLICENSED BROADCASTER

The FCC has issued a Memorandum Opinion and Order that in part grants and in part denies a Petition for Reconsideration filed by Dexter Blake of Mt. Vernon, New York. This in regard to a $10,000 Forfeiture Order issued to him for willfully and repeatedly operating an unlicensed radio broadcast station.

On March 3, 2009, the Enforcement Bureau's New York Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture in the amount of $10,000 to Blake for operating an unlicensed broadcast station on the frequency 101.5 MHz in Mount Vernon, New York. Blake did not file a response to the proposed fine. As a result on July 22, 2010, the Enforcement Bureau issued a Forfeiture Order affirming the findings in the Notice of Apparent Liability and assessing the $10,000 forfeiture.

That apparently got Blake's attention after which he filed his petition for reconsideration. In it, Blake admits to having operated the unlicensed station, but claims that cancellation is warranted because the individual from whom he received the equipment did not advise him that he needed an FCC license. In addition, he requested a reduction or cancellation of the forfeiture based on his inability to pay.

Now, after what it calls a careful review the FCC issued its decision on December 13th. In it, the agency said that although Blake concedes operating an unlicensed radio station that it is a violation of Section of the 301 of the Communications Act. Therefore it declines to cancel the forfeiture on this basis. However it does agree with Blake that the $10,000 amount would constitute a financial hardship and as such has lowered the fine to $1700.

Blake was given 30 days to pay the reduced fine or the case may be referred to the U.S. Department of Justice for further enforcement. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC SAYS HAWAIIAN CABLE OPS MUST CARRY KLEI TV

The FCC says that two cable television stations in Hawaii must carry a particular station even though neither wants to. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, has the rest of the story:

--

The FCC has denied a request by Oceanic Time Warner Cable and Hawaiian Telcom Services Company asking that they not carry KLEI TV on their respective systems. The station, under new ownership since 2011, asked for carriage, but the operators said no so KLEI then filed a must-carry complaint.

In part, the FCC agreed with the cable operators that the station could not argue historical carriage as neither had been carrying the station before it was bought in 2011. That's when the new owners sought carriage or that it was delivering an over-the-air signal to any of the communities it sought cable carriage in. Those are two of the four tests for cable TV carriage.

But in this case the FCC took a different view. It said the absence of those two points was not sufficient to deny the station's request. The agency said that the unique characteristics of the Hawaiian market and KLEI's strong lineup of local programming of relevance to the

inhabitants of Hawaii County and to all Hawaiians. Also that it's foreign language programming targeted at special groups and residents, persuaded it to grant the carriage complaint.

Hawaiian Telcom Services Company had said that if it carried KLEI, it should not have to carry it on channel 6 in Honolulu. This is because it was already carrying station KBFD there. The FCC rejected that request as well. I t pointed out that it has clarified very recently that a digital station, generally speaking, is entitled to be carried on its former analog channel number. In this case KLEI was channel 6 and KBFD was 32.

I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW.

--

At airtime its not known if either the Hawaiian Telcom Services Company or Oceanic Time Warner Cable plan to file an appeal. (FCC. B&C)

**

THE BPL-PLT WAR: DARC TO HOLD STRATEGY MEETING ON DANGERS OF PLC / PLT

This note to our listeners in Germany. On Saturday, January 12, 2013 the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club will be sponsoring a one-day workshop dealing with the possible hazards to amateur radio from electromagnetic Powerline Transmission more commonly known in Europe as in-home P-L-T. The workshop slated for the DARC headquarters in Baunatal will cover all aspects of powerline Internet transmission and its likely effects on amateur radio operations. All DARC members wishing to attend are welcome. Interested parties are asked to pre-register by contacting Renate Stackebrandt by e-mail to r.stackebrandt (at) darc (dot) de. More is on line at tinyurl.com/GermanyDARC. (DARC, Southgate)

**

HAM EDUCATION: W5KUB.COM TO CARRY D-STAT LIVE NETCAST

Tom Medlin, W5KUB, tells us that all systems a go for the next live W5KUB.COM worldwide Internet broadcast. On December 29th at1500 UTC Tom will be presenting the D-Star Live netcast that will feature many experts on the mode as a part of the show. Using Tom's interactive website you will be able to ask questions, and be a part of this program. Tom says that updates are available via his Facebook web page. Just join Facebook and then use the search task bar to locate the W5KUB Group page. Then just click to join. (W5KUB)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: SUPERSTITION HAMFEST RESCHEDULED TO FEBRUARY 19

Arizona's postponed Superstition Hamfest will now take place on Saturday, February 9th at Mesa Community College off of highway 60 in western Mesa, Arizona. The Superstition Amateur Radio Club, sponsor of

the event that usually takes place in December says that it appreciates everyone's patience and once again apologizes for the inconvenience the rescheduling has caused. For more information please take your web browser to tinyurl.com/superstion-hamfest. An updated information sheet may be downloaded from the site in PDF form. (WB7C)

**

RADIO HAPPENINGS: SAQ VLF TRANSMISSION CHRISTMAS EVE

There will be a transmission from Sweden's famed Alexanderson 200 kilowatt Very Low Frequency alternator on Christmas Eve. The transmitter will be tuned up from around 07:30 UTC with the message itself transmitted on 17.2 kHz at exactly 08:00 UTC on Monday, December 24th.

The Alexanderson alternator is located at the Grimeton Radio SAQ transmitter site. If you copy the message you are asked to send QSN reports via e-mail to info (at) alexander (dot) n (dot) se. You can also mail reports via the S M bureau. More information on the Alexanderson alternator is on-line at www.alexander.n.se. (Southgate)

**

RADIO HAPPENINGS: CRICKET CAM COMING DOWN-UNDER

FOX Sports reportedly will take broadcasting of cricket competition in Australia to a new level this summer. This with pictures to be broadcast from micro size cameras installed in helmets worn by batsmen and wicket keepers.

According to the WIA News, the equipment consists of a High Definition visor-mounted camera and transmitter with batteries on the rear strap. The additional weight on the helmet is only 250 grams, or about the weight of a bar of soap.

The can be fitted to any player's helmet during the game. Fox Sports believes it will be the first camera attached to a player during a Cricket match at this level. The technology is to be officially introduced in the Big Bash Twenty tournament.

For those unfamiliar with Cricket, it is a baseball like game played between two teams of 11 players. One team bats, trying to score as many runs as possible while the other team fields, trying to dismiss the batsmen and limit the runs scored by the batting team. The game is most popular in Australia, England, the Indian sub-continent, the West Indies and Southern Africa. (WIA News)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the

world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: RADIO PIONEER RAY BRIEM, N6FFT -S.K.

We seem to be using the words of the changing of the guard more often these days, and once again they seem most apropos. This with the word of the passing of broadcasting legend Ray Briem, N6FFT as we hear from Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW:

--

Anyone born or raised in the great American Southwest in the last half century likely knows the name Ray Briem. For some 30 of those years Briem who held the Amateur Service call letters N6FFT was called the host who owned overnight talk radio on Los Angeles station KABC A.M..

Born Leland R. Briem in Ogden, Utah, in 1930, Ray Briem first took to the radio airwaves at the age of fifteen. On August 14th, 1945 he was asked by a station manager to substitute for a staff announcer and with that his days in radio were off and running.

The highlight of Ray Briems career was when he came to KABC in 1967 where he held court over the nighttime hours until 1994. While he loved big band music and interviewed hundreds of celebrities his mainstay was talking with and to his listeners. And when he got involved in shortwave listening and then ham radio, several nights each year were devoted to talking about both of these topics. Frequent guests on those special shows included the late Lenore Jensen, W6NAZ, her husband Bob, W6VGQ and Lloyd Sigmon, W6LQ, who created the traffic alert system named in his honor known as the Sigalert.

After retiring from KABC, Ray Briem did a brief afternoon talk show on KIEV-AM. He received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and in 2008 was honored for his contributions to broadcast radio by the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters organization.

On a personal note, unlike some celebrities with call signs, Ray was more than a name in an amateur radio database. He was often heard on the local ham radio airwaves and I myself had many contacts great with him through the Catalina Island repeater. As always, be it speaking to hundreds of thousands over KABC, or in a one on one contact via ham radio Ray Briem, N6FFT, was a true gentleman and a friendly voice in the night that will be missed.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Bruce Tennant. K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

For a truly beautiful retrospective about Ray Briem, N6FFT, and his career we suggest that you read the article by fellow broadcaster Doug McIntire that appeared in the Los Angeles Daily News. You can find it at tinyurl.com/la-daily-news-briem. (ARNewsline(tm); K6PZW, published news reports)

**

RADIO FROM SPACE: NEW HUGE TELESCOPE TO WARN OF SOLAR STORMS

Astronomers say a new eye on the sky in Western Australia's remote outback could potentially save the world billions of dollars. This by warning of a pending cosmic catastrophe.

The International Center for Radio Astronomy Research in Perth reports that the new Murchison Widefield Array radio telescope will give a dramatically improved view of the sun. This in turn should provide an early warning of explosive solar storms that can damage to communication satellites, electric power grids and GPS navigation systems.

In addition to its solar observations, the Murchison Widefield Array will offer scientists an unprecedented view of the entire history of the universe, including how the very first stars and galaxies formed. (WIA)

**

WORLDBEAT: ZIMBABWE THREATENS TO JAM SHORTWAVE BROADCASTS

The South African nation of Zimbabwe thinks it should jam shortwave broadcasts from outside that nation's borders. Newzimbabwe.com reports that at a recent Zanu PF party conference it was proposed to jam the signals of foreign-based radio stations such as Voiceof America's Studio 7, Radio Voice of the People and South West Radio Africa that ruling party officials accuse of pushing a Western-backed regime change agenda in Zimbabwe.

But critics say such a move would deny the majority of people access to important alternative sources of information to make informed decisions. They argue that President Robert Mugabe's party wants to continue its domination of the airwaves in order to maintain the status quo. But Zanu PF officials maintain these radio stations are breaking the Zimbabwe law and should be jammed. More is on-line at tinyurl.com/zimbabwe-jamming-threats. (Newzimbabwe)

**

ON THE AIR: NEW SUPER LOW POWER 80 METER BEACON FROM ITALY

On the air, keep an ear open on 80 meters for a new QRP level propagation signal. The Irish Radio Transmitting Society reports that a new European low power beacon is transmitting on 3574.5 Kilohertz using only 300 milliwatts. The callsign is IZ3NYT with diagrams and pictures at iz3nyt.altervista.org/gallery. Text is in the Italian

language. QSN reports go to IZ3NYT using eQSL or direct. (IRTS)

**

ON THE AIR: TC9SAM IN MEMORIAM OF THE ALLAHEKBER MARTYRS

If you contacted special event station TC9SAM between December 20th and the 24th you are being asked to QSL direct only. TC9SAM was to operate at the Turkish Scouting and Guiding Federation's National Conciousness Camp-In held in memoriam to the Allahuekber martyrs. The memorial is a traditional winter march to Allahuekber peak in eastern Turkey held in memory of the 60,000 patriots who were frozen to death while trying to reach the occupied Kars city in December of 1914. In accordance with the camp program operations of TC9SAM were mainly on 80 and 40 meter SSB. (TA1HZ)

**

DX

In DX, members of the Lufthansa Amateur Radio Club Frankfurt will be on the air from Vietnam from February 15th to the 26th. They will operate as XV2DLH and will be active on all of the High Frequency bands. QSL's go via DK8ZZ.

JR1IZM who also holds the call V31IZ will be operational as 7P8ZM from Lesotho through January of 2013. He will be active on all of the High Frequency bands. QSL via JO1CRA

F6ITD will be on the air stroke FG from Guadeloupe and two islands between next February 1st and March 25th. He will be using SSB and the Digital modes during his stay. Logs will be uploaded to both ClubLog and Logbook of the World. QSL via his home call either direct or via the bureau.

GM3YTS, GM4FDM, GM0GAV and GM3POI will be operational as T2GM from Tuvalu between March 12th and the 23rd with their activity will be focused on Europe. The group now has a Web page available at t2gm.org. QSL via GM4FDM.

K1GI will be active stroke VP9 from Bermuda between December 29th and January 2nd. Operations will be on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and the digital modes. QSL via JG2BRI, direct or electronically using Logbook of the World. No bureau cards will be accepted.

Lastly, AA9A will again be active from Antigua between February 11th and the 20th using a new callsign V24A. Operations should be on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and possibly RTTY. QSL via his home callsign either direct or using the bureau.

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: CUBESAT DESIGNER INTERVIEWED ON SWEDISH RADIO

And finally this week, a Swedish radio show recently featured an interview with Hojun Song, DS1SBO, about his O-S-S-I CubeSat. The broadcast took place on Monday, November 26th and dealt with the Maker and Hacker movement that continues to take the world of home construction by storm. This included the item on DS1SBO, and the CubeSat that is to launch in April of 2013. Here Song discusses his philosophy in developing the OSSI bird:

--

DS1SBO: ".The point of my project is to freeing all of the technologies that is used in the satellite."
--

The entire program can be downloaded as an MP3 file at inyurl.com/ossi-cubesat-interview. While Song speaks in English the rest of the show is entirely in Swedish. The interview with DB1SBO begins at about 1 minute and 20 seconds into the show. (Southgate, audio clip from sverigesradio.se)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Skeeter Nash, N5ASH, wishing you a very Merry Christmas from all of us at the Amateur Radio Newsline. 73 and as always, and we thank you for listening.

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331. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-22 07:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1356159602@panix.com>
Source record: 100
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.4 2008/02/09 19:36:10
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

In slrn, according to the srln FAQ, the following scoring rule will | allow you to see rec.radio.info-crossposted bulletins, while still | filtering out most SPAM or "Velveeta" crossposted to more than 2 | newsgroups (as such articles usually do not contain a 'Followup-To:' | header): |

Score: -9999 |
Newsgroups: ,.*, |
~Followup-To: . |

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet newsgroups is the RadioBanter site:

http://www.radiobanter.com

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project:

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com

It, too, supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

332. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-22 07:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1356159900@panix.com>
Source record: 101
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

333. Re: FCC Daily Digest 12/12/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-24 02:44:41 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <50D4C352.7000303@horne.net>
Source record: 102

On 12/16/2012 8:55 PM, Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sun, 16 Dec 2012 12:20:55 EST, Bill Horne<bill@horneQRM.net>
> wrote:
>
>> Perhaps not so simple. If my equipment is in an outbuilding (many hams
>> still operate from a "Shack"), and the FCC demands access to my home on
>> the premise that I have [whatever it is they want to find] inside my
>> house instead of in the shack, are they able to revoke my ham license
>> for saying "Get a warrant"?
>
> Sounds good to me but it doesn't work that way. Pull the "get a
> warrant" (i.e. station unavailable for inspection on reasonable
> request) often enough and get tagged as an unrepentant sinner (the FCC
> term is "lacks sufficient character to remain a licensee") and the
> conveyor belt starts. License revocation is the last resort, not the
> first thing out of the box. Smart people don't tug on the FCC's
> cape.....

I'm a pretty smart guy, and I've tugged on lots of capes: it's my specialty, so here are a few blunt questions.

1. Who is the Federal Communications Commission that they feel they are entitled to judge my character? AFAICT, the FCC Commissioners are overpaid clerks who draw lines between allocations and availabilities, and not very good judges of character, be it mine or each others'. As to being either unrepentant or a sinner, all I can say is that it's scary that anyone associated with the legal process would infer that they are entitled to even *use* such a description.

2. Who is the Federal Communications Commission that they think they are entitled to decide I don't qualify for a constitutional right? Last time I checked, I exercise my constitutional right to refuse an unreasonable search by /doing/ /it/, not by asking FCC bureaucrats if I may. If the FCC doesn't like it, the Supreme Court is within walking distance.

3. I don't */"pull"*/ the "get a warrant" /*ANYTHING*/. I am /*ENTITLED*/ to say "GET A WARRANT" to /*ANYONE*/ who demands access to my home, no matter how self-important the intruder feels I should think (s)he is.

>> This isn't an academic question: if I have a copy of <politically
>> incorrect literature> on my coffee table, or a few <politically
>> incorrect refugees> in my cellar, I might choose to bring my two-meter
>> HT to the door when an FCC inspector rings the bell, and tell him
>> "That's the station right there in your hand". What if he says "You have
>> to let me in"?

>
> Let's get this straight - the request is to inspect the equipment, not
> to go on a fishing expedition for stuff that is not related thereto.
> The FCC is not "la migra". If there is reasonable cause to believe
> that you are not permitting access to all radio equipment that can be
> logically involved in the request, you have not made the station
> "available for inspection" whether it is located in your house, your
> outbuilding, your RV or elsewhere.

I'm glad that you describe it as a "request". ;-). If I choose to satisfy that request by putting a handi-talkie in the bureaucrat's hand, as far as I'm concerned, that satisfies their request.

I know that FCC employees are not "la migra", or "le Grand Patron", or The-lord-of-the-manor, or "Massa of the plantation", or anything else but government employees whom are subject to the same laws and precedents I am.

Bill, W1AC

--
Bill Horne

334. 30 Years Ago: WARC 79 Ratified by U.S. Senate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-26 01:06:06 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <50d9b909$0$61601$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 103
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

This is from a web-site that is replaying Usenet, including
net.ham-radio, from 30 years ago (currently late 1982). The site is:

http://www.olduse.net

If you prefer to use your own newsreader, the site also supports an NNTP
connection at:

nntp.olduse.net:119

>From: ad7i <utzoo!decvax!harpo!npoiv!npois!houxm!houxa!houxi!houxp!ad7i>
>Subject: ARRL 114: WARC approved by Senate
>Newsgroups: net.ham-radio
>Date: Thu Dec 23 08:55:19 1982

hr arrl bulletin nr 114 from arrl headquarters
newington ct december 22, 1982
to all radio amateurs bt

on tuesday, december 21, the senate approved treaty document 97 21,
thus consenting to ratification of the final acts of the 1979 world
administrative radio conference. this represented the last major
hurdle for implementation in the united states of the warc 79
agreements. president reagan is expected to sign the document
without delay. fcc release of its proposals for warc implementation,
as a notice of proposed rule making in docket 80 739, is expected any
day ar

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v2.0.19 (FreeBSD)

iEYEARECAAYFAlDZuOIACgkQ6Pj0az779o5BxACeNRwN4XN7Be4uuPRtbltGDzGq
3WcAoI6an8cjsmHjJxOO0UnIOQdS1UMX
=9B6l
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

335. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1846 - December 28 2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-28 10:00:15 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <20121228100003.479CE33C7B@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 104
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1846 - December 28 2012

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1846 with a release date of December 28, 2012 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Hams in the Philippines activate as yet another tropical storm hits that nation; new spectrum for hams in Switzerland and the U-K; a ham radio operator in New York City beats the bureaucracy and gets to keep his tower; Canada changes the way it administers its communications enforcement and AMSAT gets a Matching Fund for donations made to the Fox satellite project. These stories and more on the Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1846 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: PHILIPPINES ACTIVATES EMERGENCY NET 7.095 MHZ

Hams in the Philippines are again activated as yet another tropical storm hits the nation. Stephen Kinford, N8WB, has more in this report:

--

Spare a thought for those who spent a nervous, very wet and windy Christmas as Tropical Storm Quinta went through the south of the Philippines. This in areas trying to recover from Tyhoon Bopha earlier in the month.

Landslides occurred in the Visayas, Southern Leyte and Eastern Samar areas. There were more than 5,800 ferry passengers stranded with fishermen told not to venture out.

Activated during the storm was the Philippines Amateur Radio Association Emergency net on 7.095 MHz and VHF, to handle emergency and welfare traffic.

Among those involved were members of the Philippines Amateur Radio Association affiliated club called the District 5 Radio Amateur Network. They were kept busy coordinating pre-emptive evacuations in Tacloban City and elsewhere alongside members of the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. Other radio amateurs were also involved in the overall emergency.

The Philippine archipelago has numerous severe weather events each year. Typhoon Bopha which made landfall over Mindanao on December the

2nd ripped through the southern provinces killing 1,067 people, leaving hundreds missing and many more homeless.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Stephen Kinford, N8WB.

--

All ham radio operators world wide awere being asked to keep clear of the Philippine emergency net frequency of 7.095 MHz until operations stand down. (VK3PC, DU1UG)

**

RESTRUCTURING: SWITZERLAND GRANTS HAMS ACCESS TO 472 TO 479 KHZ

A new year's present from telecommunications regulator BAKOM to the ham radio community of Switzerland. As of January 1st, Swiss hams will have access to the low frequency spectrum from 472 to 479 kHz.

As in most other nations that have granted access to this band, the Effective Radiated Power level is 5 watts making it more suitable for low noise digital narrowband modes than either analog voice or CW. (Southgate)

**

RESTRUCTURING: 5 MHZ SLOTS AVAILABLE IN THE UK

And a New Years gift from United Kingdom telecommunications regulator Ofcom to that nations hams. This with the announcement that the previously adopted additional block of frequencies at 5 MHz are now available on a Notice of Variation Basis.

As of January 1st UK hams holding Full Advanced class U-K licenses can apply for the Notices of Variation to gain access to the new frequency slots. Information for U-K hams on how to apply for these as well as a Notice of Variation for operation in the Low Frequency 472 to 479 kHz bands are on line at tinyurl.com/new-UK-nov (Southgate, 5 MHZ Newsletter, G4MWO)

**

RADIO LAW: NYC HAMS WINS FIGHT TO KEEP TOWER

A New York City ham will be able to keep his tower and antenna on the roof of his home in the borough of Manhattan. This after the city's Board of Standards and Appeals overrules the Department of Buildings that had tried to revoke his permit for the antenna that had previously been legally issued. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the details:

--

In September of 2010, Paul Isaacs, W2JGQ, was granted a building permit for his amateur radio antenna. The antenna system was made up of a 40

foot tower and top mounted Yagi antenna. Isaacs installed his antenna system on the roof of his four story home about 60 or so feet above ground level.

Then some four months after the system had been put in place the City of New York's Department of Buildings declared its intention to revoke Isaacs' properly attained building permit. Why? Well after all that tuime it decided that Issac's amateur radio antenna system was not, in the Department's opinion, an accessory use.

Isaacs appealed the decision through the Department's bureaucracy. When it didn't reverse the decision, W2JGQ had a series of hearings before the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals.

Now comes word that in November the Board of Standards and Appeals ruled that while perhaps uncommon, that an amateur radio antenna system is indeed an accessory use under New York City's zoning ordinance and the building permit was properly granted.

Burt heres the best part. The Board of Standards and Appeals also stated in the case of amateur radio towers, that, unlike cellular towers and certain other structures, there is no expressed standards to guide Department of Buildings in determining at what height a particular radio tower becomes a non-accessory.

While its possible that the city could enact some form of ordinance to create a standard in at some future date, at the moment the interpretation stands as defined. It also has the blessing of the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

The bottom line: Not a bad win for ham radio and other private radio users in the city known as The Big Apple. (eHam, others)

**

RADIO LAW: CANADIAN ENFORCEMENT RULES CHANGES

An announcement in the Canada Gazette says that there have been modifications made in the Contravention Regulations concerning the enforcement of the nations Radiocommunication Regulations. These changes will allow peace officers including Municipal, Provincial and Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers to issue tickets for certain offences under the nations Radiocommunication Regulations.

This change is the result of amendments made back in 2000 and 2011 to the Canadian Radiocommunication Regulations to exempt amateur radio apparatus and its operation from the licensing requirement by Industry Canada. Also to respond to concerns expressed by the Standing Joint Committee for the Scrutiny of Regulations. The latter had concluded

that provisions of the Radiocommunication Regulations were redundant to, or inconsistent with, the Radiocommunication Act, or inconsistent with the terms of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

You can see the changes and how they might affect radio amateurs in that nation at tinyurl.com/new-Canadian-regs (RAC, VE4WO)

**

COMMUNICATIONS LAW: SUPREME COURT REFUSES TO HEAR CHALLENGE TO 2008 WIRETAP IMMUNITY LAW

The United States Supreme Court has rejected a challenge to a 2008 federal law granting immunity to phone companies. This for assisting the government eavesdrop on private phone conversations. Amateur Radio Newsline's Skeeter Nash takes a look at what transpired:

--

The case involved 33 lawsuits brought against the telecommunications providers in 2006 after news reports that the government had conducted warrant-less surveillance. Phone customers alleged that AT&T, Sprint Nextel, Verizon Communications and others violated federal and state law.

In reaction to the suits, in 2008 Congress passed Section 802 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. This gave the Attorney General the power to grant legal immunity to anyone providing assistance to the intelligence community. The then Attorney General used that law to block the 33 suits all of which were eventually dismissed.

The Electronic Frontier Foundation, the American Civil Liberties Union and others appealed. Their lawyers argued that Section 802 violated the separation of powers doctrine of the U.S. Constitution. But in December of 2011, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco rejected those arguments, finding the telephone companies immune.

Asking the Supreme Court to review that decision, the civil liberties groups said the law allowed the executive branch to conduct warrantless, suspicionless domestic surveillance without fear of review by courts. Also that it gave the Attorney General sole discretion to decide when eavesdropping was necessary.

But the high court, without comment, has declined to review the challenge to the law.

--

This decision is the latest in which the High Court has refused to review government surveillance practices adopted since the al-Quida lead terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. (Published news reports)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FOX MATCHING FUND ESTABLISHED

AMSAT President Barry Baines, WD4ASW, says that the organization has received a matching funds challenge to help with the Fox 1 program. Baines says that an anonymous donor will match up to $25,000 in funds to be donated to the Fox satellite project.

Fox-1B mission will incorporate the spare flight hardware of Fox-1. It is a joint project with the Institute for Space and Defense Electronics at Vanderbilt University and is AMSAT's first satellite with science as its primary mission. As such it holds the potential of opening up new opportunities for free launches. The satellite will also carry a ham radio FM transponder and AMSAT expects to be able to operate the transponder and science payload simultaneously.

AMSAT says that it has requested a launch in the second half of 2014 to a 650 kilometer sun-synchronous orbit. This is same as had been requested for Fox-1.

Donatations to the matching fund can be made via PayPal sent to Martha (at) amsat (dot) org. Or you can simply click on the PayPal logo at www.amsat.org. And we will have more ham radio space related news later on in this weeks newscast. (AMSAT)

**

BREAK 1

Wishing you a very Happy New Year. From the United States of America, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the K7CSK repeater serving Everett, Washington.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO MIRACLES: HAM RADIO OPERATOR WALKS AWAY FROM CHOPPER CRASH

Call it a Christmas miracle. This with word that a Minnesota ham who crash landed his helicopter on his sons back yard helipad has walked away with only minor injuries. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has the details:

--

The pilot was Trygve Svard, KD0PNQ, of Plymouth, Minnesota. According to news reports Svard was in the process of landing his personal helicopter in the yard of his son's home in the rural city of Corcoran at around 10:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, December 23rd. This as he had done many times in the past. But something went wrong as the chopper began to spin with its tail rotor hitting a near-by trailer.

News reports go on to say that Svard's son Stefan was watching his father land the Robinson Model 22 chopper when the accident occurred. The younger Svard ran out with a fire extinguisher. Stefan got his father safely out of the helicopter before a major fire erupted. KD0PNQ reportedly suffered only a scorched arm and singed facial hair but

thankfully was otherwise unscathed.

Brad Christianson, KC0HCP, tells Amateur Radio Newsline that Trygve Svard is a member of the Minneapolis area Twin City FM Club. The news report about the crash describes Svard as being a very skilled pilot.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the Newsroom in Los Angeles.

--

The FAA and National Transportation Safety Board are investigating the incident. More on this story is on the web at tinyurl.com/hams-helicopter-down. (KC0HCP, Lakeminnetonka Patch, other published news reports)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENDED BROADCASTER WITH THREE TRANSMITTER LOCATIONS HANDED $25000 PROPOSED FINE

An unlicensed broadcaster that tried to fool the FCC by originating his programming frm different locations has been found and issued a $25,000 propsed fine.

Recipient of this likely unwanted gift from Uncle Sam is Fabrice Polynice, of North Miami, Florida, whom the regulatory agency claims to have apparently, willfully and repeatedly violated Section 301 of the Communications Act. This by allegedly operating unlicensed radio transmitters on the frequency 90.1 MHz from three locations in North Miami, Florida.

According to the FCC, while conducting routine monitoring of the airwaves, agents from the Enforcement Bureau's Miami Office determined that an unlicensed radio station was operating on 90.1 MHz from multiple locations, presumably to evade detection. On six different days over several months the agents the used direction finding to locate the source of radio frequency transmissions and traced them to three separate locations in North Miami. The agents made signal strength measurements and determined that the signals exceeded the limits for operation under Part 15 of the FCC rules and therefore required a license.

The agents inspected two of the station locations when Mr. Polynice was not present. One inspection was conducted following seizure of the transmitting equipment by federal marshals. The other was conducted with the residents of the property, and they were issued an on-scene Notice of Unlicensed Operation. But the unlicensed station continued to operate at one of the locations even after the federal marshals had seized the radio transmitting equipment located at another location.

Now in issuing the $25,000 proposed fine, the FCC says that the evidence in this case is sufficient to establish that Mr. Polynice violated Section 301 of the Communications Act on at least six

different days during March to July of 2012. It also stated that its agents heard the station identify itself on the air as "Touche Douce" and announce Polynice's personal telephone number as the station's telephone number. It also noted that Polynice has a history of operating a radio station without a license, which demonstrates a complete disregard for Federal and State authorities and their laws. Despite being arrested and convicted in 2006 for violating the State of Florida's prohibition against operating an unlicensed radio station within the State that Polynice continued to operate an unlicensed radio station at three separate locations in North Miami.

Based on the evidence before it, including what the FCC termed as consideration of the egregiousness of the violations, the history of prior offenses, and the degree of culpability, that it finds that the violations warrant a total upward adjustment of $15,000 from the $10,000 base fine. Polynice was also warned that future violations may subject him to more severe enforcement action, including larger monetary forfeitures, criminal prosecution, and the seizure of his equipment. (FCC)

**

EXPANDING RADIO: MORE RADIO HAMS IN FAIRBANKS

The amateur radio population in Fairbanks, Alaska is increasing thanks to the work of the Arctic Amateur Radio Club. The club reports that in 2012 that it welcomed 18 new Technician licenses and had 11 General class upgrades and 7 Extra class upgrades.

If you are not familiar with Alaska, Fairbanks is located in the interior of the state. It is about a 6 hour drive from the next largest city of Anchorage. (KL3NO)

**

CORRECTION: SUPERSTITION HAMFEST FEBRUARY 9 AND YUMA HAMFEST FEBRUARY 15 - 16

A quick correction to a typo that only appeared only in the text version of last weeks' newscast. In the printed headline, the text gave a date of Superstition Arizona hamfest February 19th while the story itself said the date was the 9th. To clarify, the text of the story was correct and the headline was wrong. The correct date is February 9th.

And while we are at it we should mention that the following weekend is the Hamfest and State Convention in Yuma Arizona. That's February 15th and 16th. The bottom line is that it looks like a busy ham radio month in Arizona and the planners of both these events hope to see you there.

Our thanks to Alan Price. N6ALP for the correction and the Arizona events update. (N6ALP)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ORLANDO HAMCATION ON FEBRUARY 8 - 10 IN FLORIDA

The 67th annual Orlando Amateur Radio Club Orlando HamCation Amateur Radio and Computer Show is slated for the weekend of February 8, 9 and 10 at the Central Florida Fairgrounds in Orlando, Florida.

The theme for the 2013 Orlando HamCation is Ham Radio Exploring New Horizons. The event will feature over 150 commercial vendor booths, 400 swap tables, the largest Tailgate Area in the southeast as well as a plethora of forums. Special event station K4H will be on the air from the Hamcation site.

Updated information is available at www.hamcation.com, on Facebook under the fan page of Hamcation. You can also follow developments on Twitter by subscribing to @hamcation. (Orlando Hamcation)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT ON OSCAR

AMSAT is again inviting radio amateur's world wide to participate in Straight Key Night on OSCAR.

As always, operation is simple and informal. Just use CW through one or more satellites on January 1st 2013 from 0000 to 2400 UTC using only a straight hand key. There is no need to send in a log, but all participants are encouraged to nominate someone they worked for Best Fist. Your nominee need not have the best fist of anyone you heard, only of those you worked. Send your nomination to w2rs at amsat dot org. A list of those nominated will appear on the Amsat News and in the AMSAT Journal.

And less we forget, this year's event is dedicated to the memory of John Thompson, who held the calls W1BIH and PJ9JT who passed away in 2012 ate age 96. Although known primarily as a High Frequency DXer and contester, Thompson was also active on the OSCAR satellites, mostly on CW. (ANS)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: WYONG CONTEST UNIVERSITY URL UPDATE

>From the social calendar file we have been advised to ask that you use the direct U-R-L for information regarding the Mini Contest University at Wyong Australia. According to the event planners the Tiny URL link will not work because there is a space in the URL which causes problems with tinyurl and other U-R-L compression schemes.

Wyong Mini Contest University takes place on Saturday, February 23rd. If you want more information on this event please take your web browser to www.fieldday.org.au/contest_university/.

If you missed that, don't worry. You will find it in the printed edition of this week's Amateur Radio Newsline report. (VK2JI)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: HAM RADIO UNIVERSITY 2013 JANUARY 6 IN NY

The 14th annual Ham Radio University will be held on Sunday, January 6th from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Briarcliffe College in Bethpage, New York. The event will include more than 25 informational forums moderated by local experts in a broad range of Amateur Radio activities. The keynote speaker will be Bill Cross W3TN, Staff member in the Federal Communications Commission's Mobility Division.

Ham Radio University is a cooperative effort supported by radio clubs and related organizations in the New York City and Long Island area. This year the event is being sponsored by the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club. Further information and the forum schedule is on line at www.hamradiouniversity.org. (KS2G)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: 2012 YASME EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Yasme Excellence Awards for 2012 have been announced. Among those receiving honors this year are George Fremin, K5TR; Tree Tyree, N6TR; Trey Garlough, N5KO, and Scott Neader, KA9FOX. This, for their contributions to many infrastructure projects that benefit the ham community at large.

Also recognized is ARRL Education and Technology Program Director Mark Spencer, WA8SME. Spencer received the honor for his contribution to the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology and other training efforts. Also for his development of P-I-C microcontroller projects, books for amateurs, as well as working with leaders in student and scientific teams in applying amateur radio to scientific projects and experiments.

The Yasme Excellence Awards are given to individuals who through their own service, creativity, effort and dedication, have made a significant contribution to amateur radio. The award itself takes the form of a cash grant and an engraved crystal globe. For a complete list of these years winners please take your web browser to www.yasme.org/awards. (Yasme. ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE3DSS NEW RAC MARITIMES SECTION MANAGER

And congratulations to Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS, who was recently elected Radio Amateurs of Canada Section Manager for the Maritimes for the balance of a two year term. He ran unopposed eliminating the need for a balloted election. (RAC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: AE5DW TO GUEST ON THE DODROPIN ECHOLINK NER OM JANUARY 5

And on Jan 5th at 2100 hours Eastern Standard Time, Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, will be the guest on the Amateur Radio Newsline Net held on the DoDropIn Echolink conference server. You are invited to - well -- drop in and catch Don talking about his career in broadcasting as well as amateur radio after which the latest Amateur Radio Newsline newscast will be aired. Again that's the Amateur Radio Newsline Net on Saturday January 5th 2100 ours Eastern Standard Time to meet Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, on the DoDropIn Echolink conference server node number 355800. Hope to see you there. (W8WFO)

**

BREAK 2

With you 52 weeks a year every year. From the United States of America, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: RESPECTED FCC ENGINEER ANGELO DITTY K4GKB -SK

A name familiar to both broadcasters and ham radio operators has passed from the scene. This with word that former FCC Inspector Angelo Ditty, K4GKB, became a Silent Key on December 2nd at the age of 87.

Ditty served in the Atlanta FCC office as the Engineer in Charge from 1974 until 1990 following a stint with the FCC out of Tampa, Florida. Earlier in his career while based at the FCC's San Francisco office he worked with Ney Landry, W6UDU, who recently passed away at age 95.

After leaving the FCC Ditty took a position with the Georgia Association of Broadcasters where he served until 2011. There he examined engineering and public files for members, allowing them three-year exemptions from FCC inspections.

Memorial services for Angelo Ditty, K4GKB, were held on Friday, December 7th in Canton. Georgia. (RW)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: BARCODE INVENTOR JOSEPH WOODLAND -S.K.

Norman Joseph Woodland who co-created the barcode using Morse code, has died at his New Jersey home at the age of 91.

Barcodes Inc. says that Woodland worked with university classmate Bernard Silver to create the now ubiquitous thick-and-thin-line system in the 1940s. Woodland reportedly used the Morse code as a basis to create the barcode when he just extended the dots and dashes downward and made narrow lines and wide lines out of them.

The BBC reports that the system was patented in the US in 1952 and was later sold for only $15,000. (BBC)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: THREE NEW HAMS JOIN ISS CREW

Three new astro-hams are now on-board the Internationl Space Station. They are American Tom Marshburn, KE5HOC; Russian Roman Romanenko, UT5ERP and Canada's Chris Hadfield, KC5RNJ. All were launched from the Bikenour Cosmodrome in Kazakhestan on board a Soyuz booster on Wednesday, December 19th . The trio traveled for two days in the capsule, before docking with the space station where three other astronauts are already on board. (ANS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT-UK introduces Electronic Membership

AMSAT-UK has announced that it will now offer Electronic E-membership at a reduced rate.

The new E-membership will provide OSCAR News as a downloadable PDF file and members will have the freedom to read it on their tablets or smart phones at their leisure. E-membership should also be especially beneficial to overseas members who have long suffered from high postal charges and long delivery times.

The AMSAT-UK membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st. Members can renew at tinyurl.com/amsat-uk-renew. New members sign up at tinyurl.com/amsat-uk-join (AMSAT-UK)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: CUBESAT DEPLOYERS BEING MANUFACTURED AT CALIFORNIA PRISON

According to a news reports, inmates at San Quentin prison in California are building CubeSat orbital deployers.

Working under the strict guidance of NASA, a handful of skilled inmate machinists are making P-PODs which is an acronym for Poly Picosatellite Orbital Deployers. These are essentially, aluminum boxes designed to hold CubeSats which ride "piggyback" into space as secondary payloads.

The devices are part of a new generation of low-cost, miniature launch vehicles developed for research used by more than 150 universities worldwide. You can read the complete story on-line at tinyurl.com/prison-satellite-deployers (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT: ACMA SAYS NO MORE VK MICKEY-D SPAM E-MAIL

The Australian Communications and Media Authority has given McDonald's Australia Limited a formal warning under the nations Spam Act about a

`send to friends' facility on the McDonald's Happy Meal website. According to the WIA News, an ACMA investigation found that e-mails using the `send to friends' facility which promoted games and activities were sent to friends of users without first getting the friends' consent. The messages also did not have an unsubscribe facility, as required by that nations Spam Act. (WIA, ACMA)

**

WORLDBEAT: HUNGARY CLOSES REGIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE STATIONS

Hungary's Media Services and Support Trust Fund has closed all five of its regional radio studios which make up the Regio Radio network. According to the Trust memo on December 21st, the studios will be leased out, and staff will either be made redundant or employed as correspondents for the national public talk and news service.

According to the Chief Operating Officer of the Media Services and Support Trust Fund, the Regio Radio network experienced a waning audience due to increasing competition from other local private stations. The soon-to-be-available FM and AM frequencies will be used for broadcasting a new nationwide public service of Hungarian song or urban folk music and at least one operetta music station, (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT: NEW CANADIAN HELLSCHREIBER AWARD

A new award has been created for those ham radio enthusiasts in Canada who enjoy operating Hellschreiber. The basic Worked All Canada award requires contacts in Hellschreiber with the ten Canadian Provinces. The complete award requires additional QSO's be held with the three northern Territories of the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

Hellschreiber was originally a mechanical mode that now is operated by most in the digital domain and enables the transmission of text using facsimile technology. The start date of the award was December 19th which happened to be the birthday of Dr. Rudolf Hell, who patented Hellschreiber in 1929.

You must be a member of the Feld Hell Club to be eligable, but contacts with non-members are bvalid for award credit. A sample of the certificate, the rules and information on how to apply for the award is on line at tinyurl.com/Hellschreiber-Canada-Award. (Feld Hell Club)

**

ON THE AIR: 6 METER PROPAGATION TO BE ACTIVATED IN ANTARCTICA

On the air, listen out in February for Craig Hayhow VK6JJJ, who will be signing VK0JJJ from the coast of MacRobertson Land and Australia's base at Mawson in Antarctica. He arrives on February the 10th and while there he is also planning to install a 6 meter beacon to test the

propagation on that band. The beacon will operate using the call VK0RTM running 400 watts out into a 5 element yagi. For contacts on the high frequency bands he will be running a Flex 5000A and an amplifier to a triangle antenna. QSL via VK3ZAZ. (VK3PC)

**

DX

In DX, OH1LEG will be active from Rodrigues Island through January 7th signing stroke 3B9. He will be operational on 160 through 10 meters using SSB , RTTY and PSK31. QSL direct via OH1LEG.

DF3FS and DL1QW will be active stroke 5Z4 from Kenya from January 6th to the 20th . They will be operating 80 through 10 meters using CW , SSB and RTTY. QSL via each operators home call.

PP1CZ will be on the air from Fernando de Noronha Island January 15th to the 21st signing PY0F. He will focus on 160 and 80 meter CW. QSL via his home call.

JR1IZM will be active from Lesotho through January 2013 as 7P8ZM He will be operational on all of the High Frequency bands but no specific modes or operating times have been mentioned. QSL via JO1CRA

DK9FN is operational from Temotu Province using the call H-40-F-N through January 7th. If you make contact QSL H-40-F-N via HA8DD.

JR1IZM is in Losotho has been issued with the callsign 7P8ZM. He will be active until mid-January though no specific bands or operating times are known. QSL's go via his home call.

Prefix hunters will be interested in the callsign 8N119T. This is being used to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Tokyo Fire Department and will be in operation until March 25th. QSL as directed on the air.

Lastly, an international team organized by the Belgian Rockall Team will be on the air from Burundi between February 14th and the 23rd with four stations using the call 9U4U. Activity will be on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. Their QSL Manager will be M0URX and their website can be found at www.9u4u.be

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: ANNIVERSARY OF LAST MORSE CODE TELEGRAM

And finally this week, we celebrate the last telegram ever sent in New South Wales, Australia. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has the details:

--

The date was December the 13th, 1962 when the last telegram and its reply were sent by Morse code in New South Wales. And in a 50th anniversary re-enactment, former Telegraph Operator Phil McGrath traveled to Bombala, Australia, to send and receive souvenir telegrams to mark the occasion.

At the appointed time McGrath sat at the sounding box and typewriter and received what was originally meant to be that all important commemorative message. It read:

"This telegram from Sydney to Bombala is the last message which will be sent by Morse in New South Wales, concluding 104 years of operations. Henceforth telegrams to and from Bombala like all other offices in this state will be transmitted through the teleprinter perforator switching system TRESS."

Not to be outdone, Bombala's then postmaster Stan Blyton, sent his own reply that read:

"My privilege personally to transmit the last message from last Morse station New South Wales. Key being forwarded to you is a relic that was in use in 1919 where I joined service and remained there in use untill station closed in 1960. On behalf old telegraphists and Morse operators we bow to progress."

And with that transmission the celebration of Morse messaging system in New South Wales, Australia, had come to an end.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

--

TRESS eventually also ceased its messaging, first giving way to individually owned Telex machines and in more modern times to internet based e-mail. (VK3PC)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News, TWiT-TV and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline(at) arnewsline (dot) org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), 28197 Robin Avenue, Santa Clarita California, 91350

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors' desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73, a truly happy and prosperous 2013 and we thank you for listening.

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336. Re: NEW ZEALAND ATV REPEATER TO TEST COMPATABILITY WITH COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-28 16:13:24 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <kbil82rva1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 105

On 12/21/2012 5:00 AM, William M. Pasternak wrote:
> RADIO COMPATIBILITY: NEW ZEALAND ATV REPEATER TO TEST COMPATABILITY
> WITH COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING
>
> In what may be a first anywhere world-wide, a New Zealand amateur radio
> service digital ATV repeater has been given a chance to test its
> compatibility with commercial broadcasters. Amateur Radio Newsline's
> Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, reports from down-under:
>
> New Zealand Radio Spectrum Management or RSM has granted the first
> Digital Amateur TV License to NZART Branch 74, the Wellington VHF
> Group, for use at its main station located on Mount Belmont, in
> Wellington.

I'm curious what hams outside New Zealand think of the effort: if I understand the report, it says that New Zealand amateurs will be broadcasting on a commercial TV channel, although I'm not clear on what benefit(s) that will deliver to hams or others during an emergency or other less urgent events.

73,

Bill W1AC

--
Bill Horne
Seeking the asymptote of the impedance wave node

337. Dar Piatt's (W9HZC) Ham Can Makes the Cover

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-28 18:20:11 UTC
From: ARRL Members Only Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>
Message-ID: <20121228174010.F2F1A2645E@bmail.arrl.org>
Source record: 106
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.homebrew,oma.general,nebr.misc,rec.radio.info

In my haste to get the last newsletter out, I forgot one important item.

During the last Nebraska ARRL State Convention, Elmer Squad Leader and Assistant Section Manager Dar Piatt, W9HZC, donated one of his qrp projects to Harold Kramer, WJ1B, Chief Operating Officer of the ARRL. Harold said he would display it at ARRL HQ.

Imagine Dar's surprise and delight when he saw his "ham can" version of a RockMite QRP transciever on the cover of the January 2013 issue of QST! Dar was given full credit in the cover description on page 5.

Congratulations, Dar! That's one small can for a ham and one giant leap for qrp.

73, Art K0AIZ

ARRL Nebraska Section
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ
k0aiz@arrl.org
---

338. FCC Daily Digest 12/28/2012

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-28 19:32:38 UTC
From: noreply@info.fcc.gov
Message-ID: <ADMIN-44256-525314-2012.12.28-13.54.45--rec-radio-info#panix.com@info.fcc.gov>
Source record: 107
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.info

(Moderator's Note: Only FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio actions are shown below.)

Daily Digest

Vol. 31 No. 247 December 2
8, 2012

[...]

REVISIONS TO PARTS 2 AND 25 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES TO GOVERN THE USE OF EARTH STATIONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT COMMUNICATING WITH FIXED-SATELLITE SERVICE GEOSTATIONARY-ORBIT SPACE STATIONS, ET AL. Provided for the efficient lic ensing of two-way in-flight broadband services, including Internet access, to passengers and flight crews aboard commercial airliners and private airc raft. (Dkt No. 12-376 05-20). Action by: the Commission. Adopted: 12/20 /2012 by NPRM. (FCC No. 12-161). IB http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public /attachmatch/FCC-12-161A1.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-161A2.doc
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-161A1.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-161A2.pdf
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-161A1.txt
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-12-161A2.txt

[...]

339. Portable Microwave units for Emergency Communications

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-30 05:38:06 UTC
From: Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
Message-ID: <50DF6E7E.2030908@horneQRM.net>
Source record: 108

My brother W3TDH is very involved with Emcom (Emergency Communications),
and I'm interested in it too, so here are some questions I hope the
readers will be able to answer.

* Is there any surplus point-to-point microwave equipment
available that will work for hams?

* What do TV stations use now for their trucks? Is there
any market for older STL equipment that hams could use
for emergency communications?

* Emcom microwave is mostly for data communications.
I know most microwave links are digital these
days, but can hams use older analog setups for data?

* I see Gunn oscillators available for sale from time to time,
for fairly low prices. Are they a viable way to build an
Emcom setup?

* What are the capabilities of the OSCAR and other ham orbiters
for Emcom data?

Thanks for your help!

Bill, W1AC

--
I've been up and down this highway, far as my eyes can see
No matter how fast I run, I can never seem to get away from me
- Jackson Browne

340. Re: Portable Microwave units for Emergency Communications

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-30 21:38:51 UTC
From: Phil Kane <k2asp@arrl.net>
Message-ID: <g581e8df10rte10lu1bduej3ialsbn99g2@4ax.com>
Source record: 109

On Sun, 30 Dec 2012 00:38:06 EST, Bill Horne <bill@horneQRM.net>
wrote:

>* Is there any surplus point-to-point microwave equipment
> available that will work for hams?

If you mean military surplus, the answer is no. DoD has been
notorious in not making older equipment available to hams as it did in
the 1940s and 50s.

>* What do TV stations use now for their trucks? Is there
> any market for older STL equipment that hams could use
> for emergency communications?

The equipment used by broadcast remote pickup operates in commercial
bands far removed from ham microwave allocations (10, 13, 18 GHz). In
recent times there have been large "relocations" in the b/c industry
as "wireless" companies pay for moving remote pickup services to new
bands so they can take over the old spectrum slices. Expect to see
more of this in the future. Apparently they have the bucks.

>* Emcom microwave is mostly for data communications.
> I know most microwave links are digital these
> days, but can hams use older analog setups for data?

As long as they are in the ham microwave bands, yes.

>* I see Gunn oscillators available for sale from time to time,
> for fairly low prices. Are they a viable way to build an
> Emcom setup?

I don't deal in constructing microwave devices but I'm sure that those
hams who do can set something up.

>* What are the capabilities of the OSCAR and other ham orbiters
> for Emcom data?

Unless the satellite is geostationary or is part of a multi-satellite
orbiting network (think Iridium) it is useless for EmComm purposes and
AFAIK we haven't put these up yet.

>Thanks for your help!

Hope that the info helps.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

Member, Washington County, OR
Emergency Communications Team

for ARES/RACES and HEARTNET

Station Co-manager - W7PSV / K7PSV
Providence St. Vincent Medical Center
Disaster Communication Team

341. Re: Portable Microwave units for Emergency Communications

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2012-12-31 01:33:39 UTC
From: Jerry Stuckle <jstucklex@attglobal.net>
Message-ID: <kbqffa$j3c$1@dont-email.me>
Source record: 110

On 12/30/2012 12:38 AM, Bill Horne wrote:
>
>
> My brother W3TDH is very involved with Emcom (Emergency Communications),
> and I'm interested in it too, so here are some questions I hope the
> readers will be able to answer.
>
> * Is there any surplus point-to-point microwave equipment
> available that will work for hams?
>
> * What do TV stations use now for their trucks? Is there
> any market for older STL equipment that hams could use
> for emergency communications?
>
> * Emcom microwave is mostly for data communications.
> I know most microwave links are digital these
> days, but can hams use older analog setups for data?
>
> * I see Gunn oscillators available for sale from time to time,
> for fairly low prices. Are they a viable way to build an
> Emcom setup?
>
> * What are the capabilities of the OSCAR and other ham orbiters
> for Emcom data?
>
> Thanks for your help!
>
> Bill, W1AC
>

I'm just wondering - how do you think microwave equipment will help? Microwave is point-to-point, i.e. a satellite truck to a tv/radio station, where the radio station has a receiver on a relatively tall tower or building. Even with that, the mobile unit needs to raise the antenna high for a mobile setup to reach the tower.

During an emergency, there is often a net control at an EOC or other central point - but it also may be at some other location. And typically there are several stations which also need to talk to each other, not just the net control. Even if it is point-to-point, most hams don't have a means to quickly set up a portable microwave link as tv/radio trucks do.

I do think it's an interesting idea, but I don't see it as very practical.

Jerry, AI0K

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Remove the "x" from my email address
Jerry Stuckle
JDS Computer Training Corp.
jstucklex@attglobal.net
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